

# MPs want to tighten curb on immigrants from India

Home Affairs select committee has urged the Government to impose stricter controls on immigration from the Indian subcontinent and to set for ending the right of passport holders to settle in Britain unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The committee's report, which is being published today, says that the Government's current policy of allowing immigrants from the Indian subcontinent to settle in Britain is "unworkable and unsustainable". It calls for a new system of immigration control which would require immigrants to have a job or a sponsor in Britain before they can be allowed to settle.

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# Bodies litter Addis Ababa streets as death squads indulge in indiscriminate mass murders Children shot dead after being tortured in Ethiopian red terror

By Hans Eirik  
Red terror, openly incited by the Ethiopian Government, has gone through Addis Ababa like a fury. On the night of March 1, a hundred people or so, including many children, were killed, as on every other night, I asked a friend whether the man of the great mosque was well. Not at all, my friend replied and told me that some days ago, one of the five known official murder squads knocked on the man's door and asked for his 14-year-old son.



Midway practice: The Oxford crew had a blustery outing on the Tideway yesterday in training for the best race on Saturday (report, page 12). Meanwhile, tourist agencies reported that many people would be spending Easter in the sun. Thomson Holidays said: "We have noticed a heavy demand for Easter breaks to the hotter destinations." Cosmos Holidays said it was fully booked for southern European flights. British Rail is to run nearly 500 more trains over Easter, many of them special excursion trains to resorts and sporting events. National Express said 700 coaches carrying 30,000 passengers will leave London tomorrow. Snow and ice returned to the North of England and parts of Scotland yesterday, the vernal equinox. The RAC reported that the Peak District was the worst affected area, with the A57 Snake Pass blocked and the M1 near Buxton partly blocked. Snow showers fell in parts of Lancashire and West Yorkshire, where speed limits were imposed on the M62. High winds added to driving difficulties in the border counties.

# Israelis cease fire in Lebanon but PLO demands total withdrawal

From Michael Kaipe  
Jerusalem, March 21  
Israeli military forces were ordered to cease fire in Lebanon at 6 pm today. About 250 Swedish troops serving with the United Nations observers in Sinai were put on six-hour alert for possible transfer to south Lebanon as the advance party of a United Nations peace-keeping force.

The ceasefire order given by General Mordechai Gur, the Chief of Staff, on the instructions of Mr Ezer Weizman, the Minister of Defence, took effect with only six hours to go before the military operation would have been a week old.

The Israelis have penetrated Lebanese territory to a depth of 15 miles at some points along the 60-mile border. They gained control of the entire area south of the Litani river, except for a small sector round the port of Tyre.

The ceasefire was preceded by heavy artillery exchanges in the western sector. Israeli sources said Palestinians opened fire from the area of the Kasmei Bridge on the east bank and from Ras el Kaled, north of the river. There were no Israeli casualties, however.

Katynusha rockets were also fired into north-east Galilee without causing casualties. The military sources said Israeli troops were continuing to search for remnants of Palestinian forces in the western sector south of Tyre. Prisoners had been taken and three tanks captured.

In the seven days of fighting, the Israelis say, 18 Israeli soldiers have been killed and 60 wounded. They put the Palestinian dead at about 250 and say they may number 400.

# White Paper lists four uses for oil revenues

By David Blake  
The Government's long-delayed White Paper on the use of North Sea oil lists four main uses for the extra resources. These are said to be investing in industry, improving industrial performance, investing in energy and increasing essential public services.

The Prime Minister said at a press conference that increased investment came at the top of the Government's list, but he also stressed the need to cut income tax.

In a clear attack on Conservative policies the paper gives a warning against using all the money for large-scale tax cuts. The Government is to report annually to Parliament on the progress which has been made towards achieving the four goals contained in the White Paper by using the resources of the North Sea.

Publication of this report, the first of which is to be published in the summer of 1979, is a compromise between those who wanted to earmark all revenues from the North Sea to a special fund and those who opposed any allocation of revenue.

The White Paper ties this in specifically to Scotland, Wales and assisted areas, but at present there are no plans to say how much revenue is allocated to Scotland from North Sea funds.

The paper estimates that by the mid-1980s the North Sea will be adding about £6,000m a year in 1977 prices to the total product of the nation. Government revenues will be worth about £4,000m a year in 1977 prices and the gain to the balance of payments will be about £8,000m to £9,000m.

But by the 1990s the benefits will start to decline, which means that the country faces a "once-and-for-all" opportunity to build on the policies which the Government is already pursuing.

# Italy tightens up terror laws

Rome, March 21.—The Italian Cabinet agreed tonight on tough new anti-terrorist measures, which increase the maximum sentence for kidnapping from eight years to 30 years' jail.

If a kidnapping victim is killed, the kidnappers can get life in prison, said Signor Carlo Donat Cattin, the Interior Minister.

The roots of terror, page 7

# Football results

Birmingham 1, Arsenal 1	Bristol City 3, Chelsea 0
Coveントリー 2, Aston Villa 3	Luton 1, Middlesbrough 1
Ipwich 2, Bolton 1	Millwall 2, Orient 0
Northampton 0, Southend 0	Nottingham 1, Middlesbrough 1
Plymouth 1, Plymouth 5	Sheffield Wed 2, Bradford 0
Aberdeen 2, Clydebank 0	Hamilton 0, Morton 0
Queen's Park 0, Raith 0	Rangers 2, Partick 1

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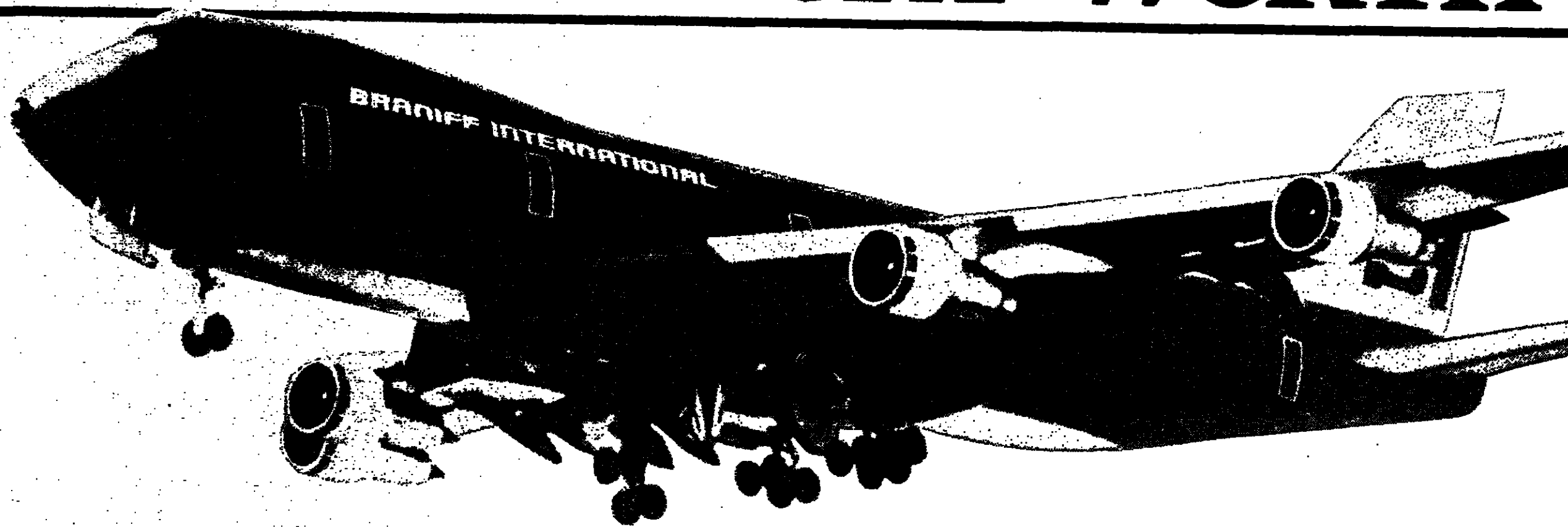






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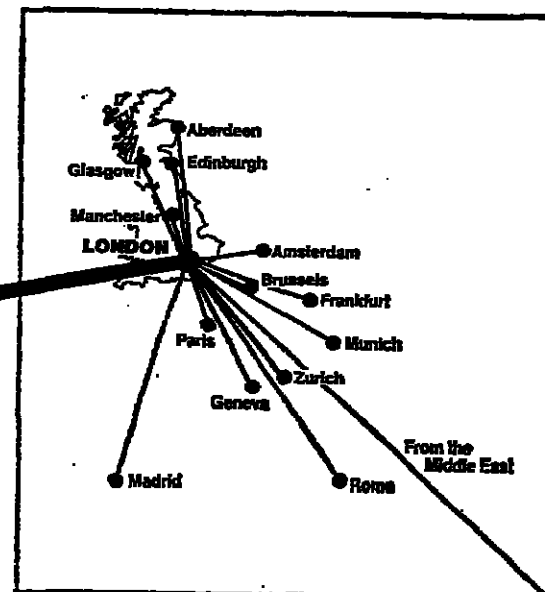
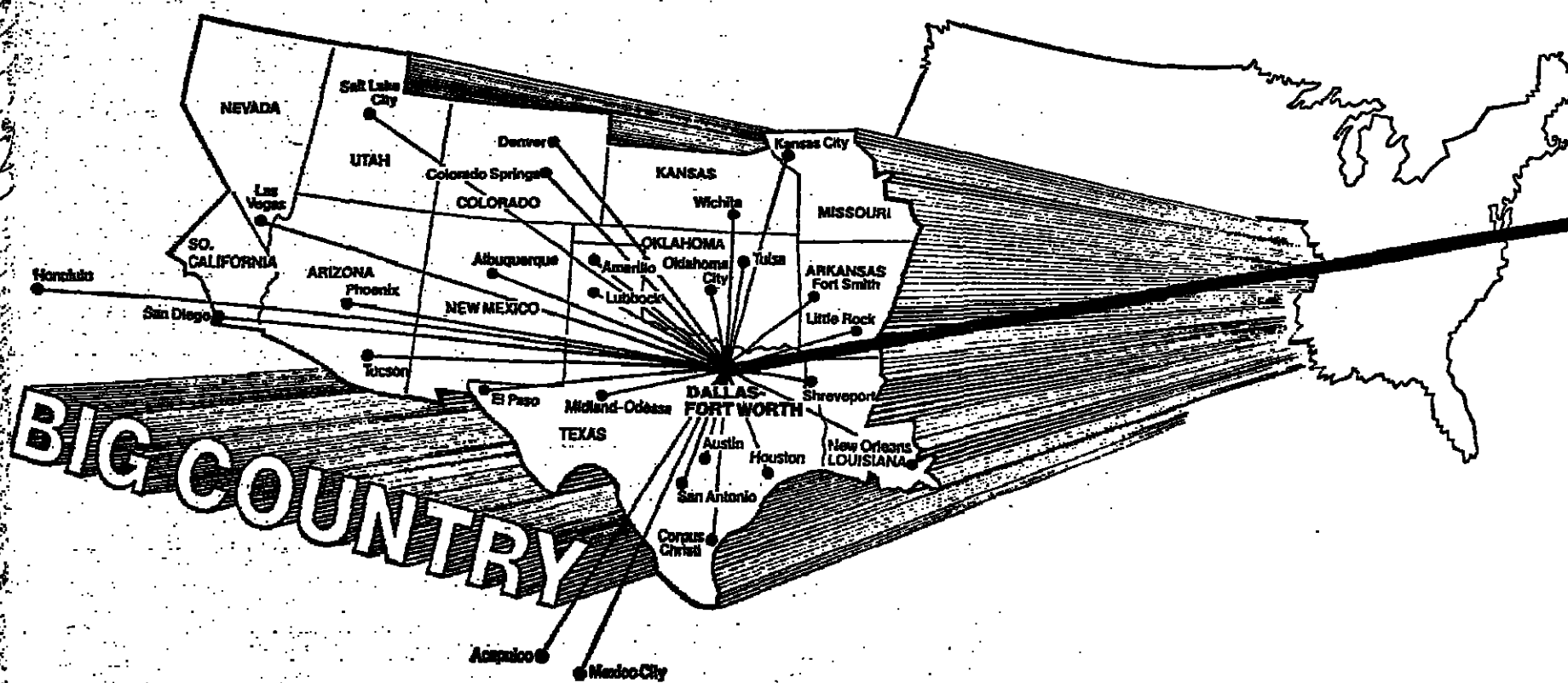


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Denver	7:10pm (Sat.)
	5:30pm (Ex. Sat.)
	5:10pm (Sat.)
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## Inspectors list eight areas as vital for a common curriculum

By Diana Geddes

Education Correspondent

All pupils between 11 and 16 should follow a common curriculum for up to three quarters of their total school time, the Schools Inspectorate says in a report published today.

The proposed common curriculum differs from other proposals for a common core in that it contains eight "areas of experience" rather than specific subjects. The eight areas, which the inspectors regard as equally essential, are: aesthetic and creative, ethical, linguistic, mathematical, physical, scientific, social and political, and spiritual.

The inspectors say their categories constitute a check list for curricular analysis, which may be applied to a variety of areas of school activity. For example, they say, the place of the aesthetic in mathematics or of the mathematical in music or geography has long been familiar. Spiritual aspects of human experience could be explored through art, music and drama as well as through history, literature or religion.

The inspectors note that most secondary schools have a broad subject-based common curriculum for the first three years. But in the fourth and fifth years a system of options is usually introduced whereby a pupil, given a free choice, could construct an arbitrary and incoherent programme.

Some common framework of assumptions is needed to assist coherence without inhibiting enterprise, the inspectors say. They point out that in proposing a framework they have no intention of seeking to diminish the professional freedom of teachers.

The inspectors' views are expressed in one of three working papers included in the report. The other two papers are about the relationship of school to society and the school's role in preparing children for the world of work. The report emphasises that the papers do not necessarily reflect the views of the inspectorate as a whole or of the Government. They are intended as a basis of discussion.

On political education, the report says it is not the responsibility of schools to give direct ideological support to every aspect of the existing political system, but they should reflect to others of the intellectually and materially well-endowed.

On discipline and social morality, the report says schools could be expected to foster a sense of mutual obligation and a sensitivity to the interests of others. They should also emphasise the obligation to others of the intellectually and materially well-endowed.

A school should accept the responsibility of equipping its leavers with competence in skills appropriate to work. The inspectors suggest that such skills should include arithmetic, competence, ability to express oneself clearly in conversation and writing, manipulative dexterity, ability to tackle a question scientifically, and a capacity for reasoning and judgment.

Curriculum 11-16. Working Papers by HM Inspectorate. A contribution to current debate. (Department of Education and Science, Elizabeth House, York Road, London SE1 7PH).

## Education minister cuts short US visit

Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, is to cut short her visit to the United States because of crucial developments in the teachers' pay dispute.

Her department confirmed yesterday that she is due to return to London this morning instead of tomorrow. She will arrive six hours before the teachers' unions and the management side resume their talks in the Burnham Committee pay negotiations.

On Monday night the teachers rejected a new improved pay offer of 9.8 per cent and said they would continue sanctions in schools.

Mrs Williams will play a key role in deciding if the dispute can be settled, or whether it will have to be resolved by arbitration.

Her American visit was partly private, but she was expected to address the annual conference of the American Association of Higher Education, in Chicago.

Parents protest about schools

Five hundred parents yesterday gathered to protest about school conditions on new estates in the London overspill town of Crawley, Sussex. There were two schools while in other parts of the town there was a surplus.

Officials eventually allowed a number of parents into the West Sussex Education Committee meeting at Bognor Regis. Councilors agreed to a fresh investigation.

National Gallery 'not a spare pocket into which Government can dip'

## Call for firm policy on saving art treasures

By Martin Huckerby

The National Gallery was not founded to save works of art for Britain, Professor John Hale, chairman of the gallery's trustees, said yesterday.

Introducing the gallery's report for 1975-77, he criticized the Government for failing to provide a long-term policy for the gallery and for its attitude towards the threat to the national heritage caused by the sale of important works of art.

The gallery had a responsible role in saving works suited to its collection that would otherwise be exported, Professor Hale said. "But that was not the purpose for which we were founded and we must not have it foisted on us."

"We are not a substitute for

the Land Fund nor a spare pocket into which the Government can dip when embarrassed by the consequences of its tax policy."

The gallery should not be expected to save endangered works it did not require or to assist other institutions to buy them. The gallery's aim was to develop a balanced collection of outstanding European paintings, "and that must involve adding to as well as protecting the heritage."

Professor Hale said there was no complaint about the Government's purchase grants and he was cautiously optimistic that the gallery's plea for a £1.85m grant for 1978-79 would draw a generous response. But the gallery felt

the lack of any long-term policy over emergency acquisitions.

Institutions like the National Gallery ought to be encouraged to grow, Professor Hale said. He sought an imaginative long-term, non-party policy which would meet the needs of individual institutions and would provide for emergencies.

In his section of the report, Mr Michael Levey, Director of the National Gallery, criticized the lack of a long-term policy towards the development of the gallery.

He said that some new work, involving air conditioning, general improvements and a new restaurant, had been approved. But the completion of air-conditioning of the east

wing and construction of the badly needed new lecture theatre had not been included in the approval.

The National Gallery could expand to only a limited degree on its present site, Mr Levey said. Any big expansion depended at least partly on the future of the National Portrait Gallery site, about which no decision had been made.

Professor Hale comments in the report that the uncertainty over the building programme is confusing and uneconomical.

The report shows that in 1974 there were 1,629,000 visitors; last year there were 2,686,000. The National Gallery July 1975-December 1977 (Publications Department, National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN; 85p, by post £1.20).

## Challenge to Mental Health Act

By Our Health Services Correspondent

The Government is lagging behind in accepting arguments for radical changes in the Mental Health Act, 1959, after months of discussion, Mind, the campaigning section of the National Association for Mental Health, said yesterday.

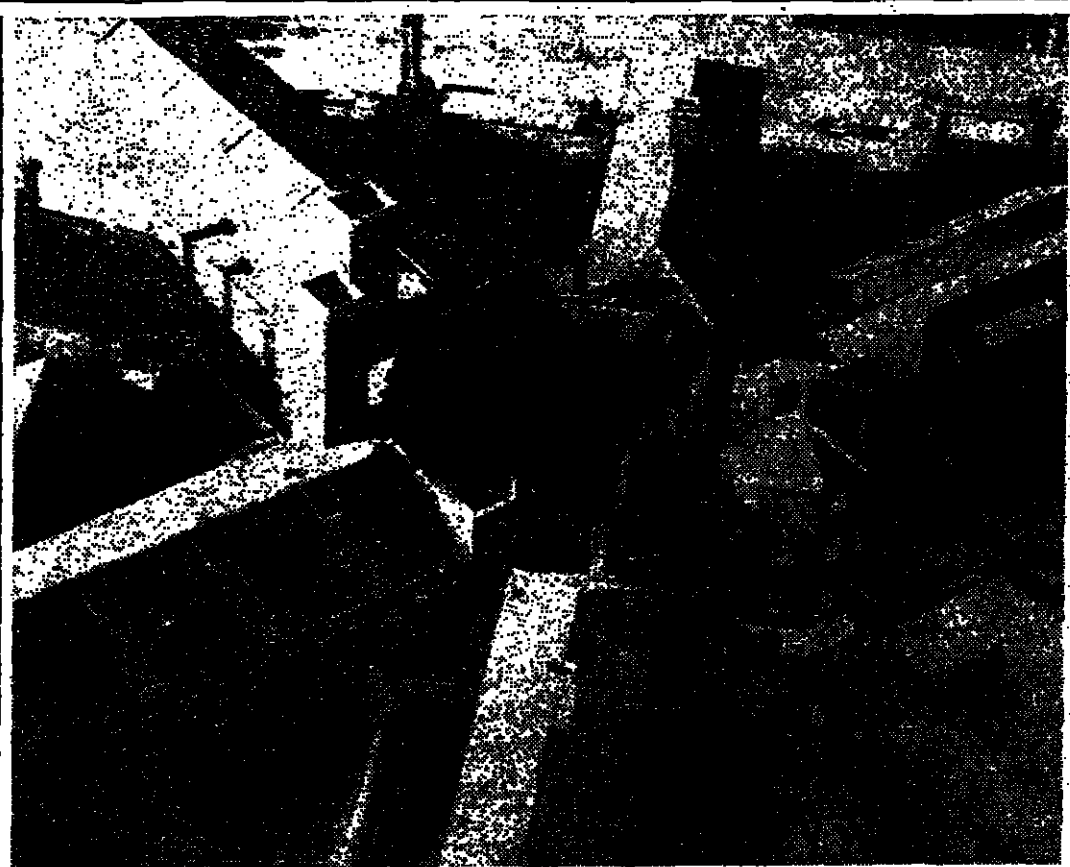
In a foreword to a pamphlet challenging the fairness of the present Act, Mr Tony Smythe, director of Mind, says: "We have little confidence that reform will come without pressure. The needs of mental patients are imperceptibly being pushed into the background."

Gradually the debate and, it seemed, the position of the Department of Health, had become more susceptible to special pleading by the professionals and those who represented them, Mind said.

The denial of rights to a whole class of people dependent on mental health services was a contributory factor in the consistently low status given by Government and the community to the service. Rights were not confined to conditions of admission and discharge from psychiatric hospitals, or restraints imposed on patients in institutions, but included the right to treatment and a decent quality of service.

Needed reforms were ambitious and would be expensive, the pamphlet says. At present 37 per cent of all admissions, 169,297 people in 1974, informally agreed to go to hospital. But an unprotesting patient was not necessarily a consenting one.

Is it fair? (NAME, 22 Harley Street, London, W1).



Prison fire: An aerial view of the burnt-out centre of Chelmsford jail, Essex, yesterday. Forensic scientists sifted the debris to see whether the fire, which swept through four of the jail's five cell blocks, central control complex and chapel on Monday night, was started deliberately. Mr Robert Mole, the deputy governor, said a prisoner who had been working near the seat of the fire when it began while cell doors were open had been interviewed by the police. Many prisoners have been or are

being transferred to other jails as a security measure and some will be interviewed later. The fire started as prisoners, many of them serving long sentences, were at recreation. Armed policemen helped to move prisoners as firemen fought the outbreak. Road blocks were set up around Chelmsford and policemen with dogs patrolled the jail area to prevent any mass breakout. But no prisoners attempted to escape. Mr Mole was confident that the 150-year-old jail would reopen, although extensive rebuilding was necessary.

## Plan for expanded airfield for USAF tankers would bring intolerable noise, residents say

### Protesters see ambassador about base

From Alan Hamilton

Protesters from Newbury called on the United States Ambassador in London yesterday to urge him to stop his country's air force turning its local airfield into one of the largest military refuelling bases in Europe.

Residents of the southern end of the Berkshire town were incensed to discover last month that rumours for the past three years that the USAF was planning to develop Greenham Common air base were true.

The hurriedly organized Campaign Against the Reactivation of Greenham Air has passed its four weeks of existence has staged a silent protest march through the town, collected 16,000 signatures, and had a prolonged audience with Mr Frederick Milley, Secretary of State for Defence.

The USAF has asked the Ministry of Defence to redevelop Greenham Common, a little used stand-by Nato airfield since 1964, into a fully operational base. It wants to station 15 KC-135 aircraft, a

military conversion of the Boeing 707, each able to carry 26,000 gallons of aviation fuel. By the USAF's own admission, the tanker is one of the noisiest aircraft in existence, second only to the Concorde.

The protesters say that Greenham Common has a greater concentration of houses, schools and hospitals within two miles of the end of the runway than almost any other airfield in Britain.

Estimates by the campaigners indicate that at least 10,000 residents would suffer an intolerable noise level, and 40,000 more severe disturbance. There are also 12 schools, with 6,000 pupils, within two miles of the western end of the runway. The district council and Berkshire County Council are opposed to any expansion, on the grounds of noise and the risk of a catastrophic fire in the event of a crash. They also note the proximity of the atomic weapons research establishment at Aldermaston and the royal ordnance factory at Burghfield Common.

But as Greenham is a defence

installation the local councils enjoy none of the usual rights of planning consent; they are merely accorded the courtesy of consultation by the Ministry of Defence.

According to the campaigners, there are three other bases much more suitable for development, none having a large population on its doorstep.

Mr Dennis Smith, chairman of the campaign committee, said yesterday: "We are fully aware of the vital defence needs of Nato, but we cannot see why it has to be Greenham."

From the USAF's point of view Greenham is far from undesirable: it has one of the longest runways in the country, is well equipped and the residents suspect, happens to be a nice place for a posting. The Ministry of Defence insists that no decision will be taken for some time. But residents were wondering yesterday why workmen were busily repairing the tarmac on the 10,000ft runway at Greenham Common.

Letters, page 19

## Easier divorce laws for Ulster opposed

Leaders of the Roman Catholic Church in Northern Ireland yesterday announced their opposition to plans to extend easier divorce laws into the province. A statement issued in Dublin by the six Irish Roman Catholic bishops with jurisdiction in Ulster said they under the proposed new legislation "people would be inclined to put less effort into making their marriages succeed and be more prone to abandon their marriages without really trying hard enough."

The legislation is intended to bring the province into line with England and Wales. The bishops said the concept was causing widespread concern to the Catholic community

## Guidelines for publishers of sex magazines

By a Staff Reporter

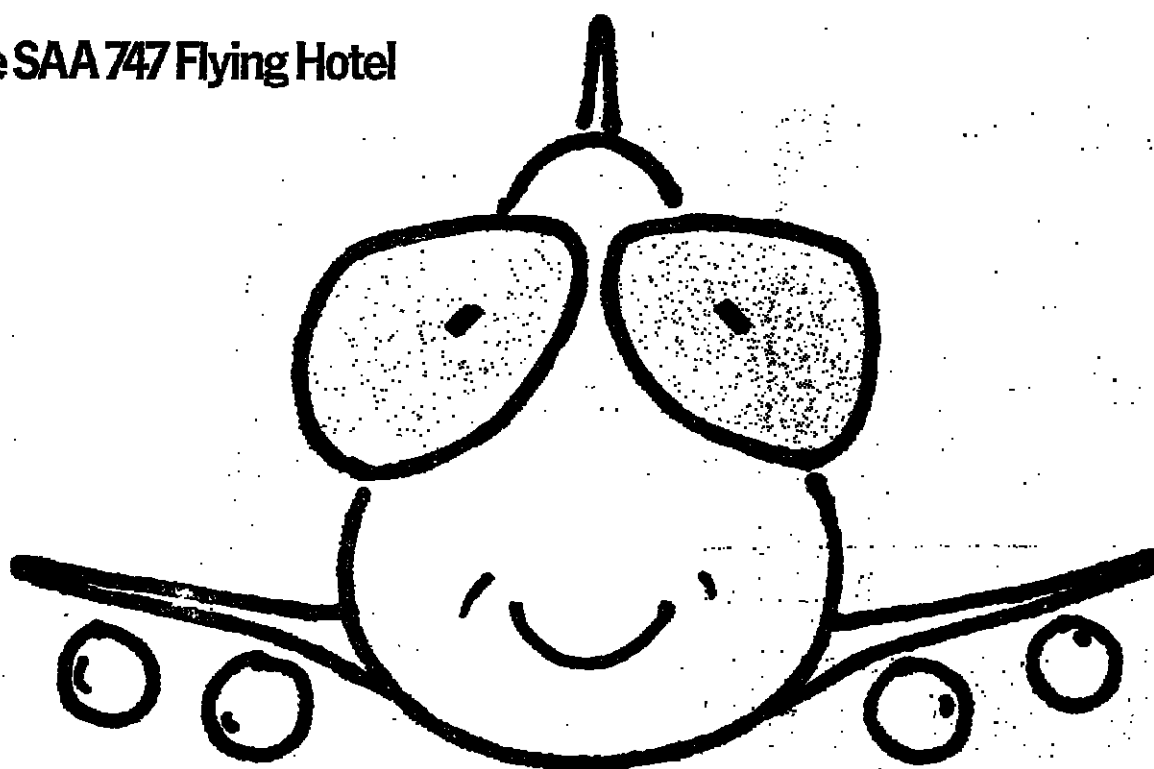
New guidelines for the publishers of "adult magazines" were announced yesterday by the British Adult Publications Association, which claims to represent the publishers of more than eighty sex magazines. It says the guidelines drawn up by Mr John Trevelyan, former chief executive of the British Board of Film Censors, are in response to an increasing number of police raids and harassment.

Members of the association will, from April 1, be discouraged from publishing material of an overtly explicit, harmful or illegal nature.

The controls, which will rely on complaints by the public, will be supported by sanctions.

If a complaint is upheld by the association's control board, Mr Trevelyan said, the three succeeding issues of the magazine in question would be inspected. If a publisher continues to breach the guidelines, the association will tell its member wholesalers, distributors and retailers to withdraw the particular magazine. Such publications would not be strong enough for the underground market, Mr Trevelyan added. Mr M. D. Kaye, a solicitor acting for publishers of more than a million monthly sex magazines, said: "The police have a free hand here. All my clients say is 'Leave the small man alone: if there are to be prosecutions, bring the publishers before a jury'."

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## In brief

### Woman lorry driver's award

An industrial tribunal in Bristol yesterday ruled that Mrs Christine Potter, aged 52, lorry driver, was unfairly dismissed for drinking tea in the cab of her lorry.

Mrs Potter, who was awarded a "substantial" amount of compensation lives at Knight Farm, Westonsayland, Somerset. The company by whom she was employed, Glasgow Pils Hire, said she was made redundant.

### RAC calls for ca tax to be kept

The abolition of vehicle tax might lead to an increase of 2 a gallon on petrol and make cost of motoring exorbitant, Clive Bosson, chairman of RAC, said yesterday.

Mr Bosson, who is also a member of the House of Commons, said the RAC had asked the Chancellor to give a fair share of any concession granted in a month's Budget.

### Land scheme progress

Former constraints on the land scheme are to be withdrawn, Mr Peter Selous, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced in the House yesterday. He said expected local authorities in England to have disposed of a further 350,000 acres of development land under the scheme by the end of the financial year.

### £34,330 theft charge

Peter Wing Ming Au, 24, of Finchley Road, Heston, London, was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment for stealing £34,330 from his employer while working as a solicitor's clerk.

### Appeal dismissed

An appeal by Mr. J. McCadden, of Westcombe, Blackheath, London, who had been refused membership of the National Union of Journalists, was dismissed by the Employment Appeal Tribunal in London yesterday. He described himself as a racist.

### Typhoid victim

Mr Philip Hughes, 49, of Portfield, Havering, died after returning from Nigeria with typhoid. Health officials said all known contacts had been traced and there was no risk of the disease spreading.

### Cameras in buses

Passengers on buses between Doncaster and Sheffield are being filmed by hidden cameras on the roof of the vehicle in an anti-vandalism drive.

### Population increases

Orkney and Shetland populations in 1971 of 17,567 respectively have 18,014 and 20,352, according to latest figures.

### Rape offences doubled

Rape offences in Ar. Somerset more than doubled from 14 in 1973, last year, according to a report by Kenneth Steele, the chief magistrate.

### Girls to be RN cad

Thirty-two girls are to be Royal Navy cadets on Portsmouth next month complaints that it practises discrimination.

### Plan against floods

A £4m plan to improve defences has been put forward to protect Fleetwood and veyles, Lancashire, which badly flooded in November.

### Three boys accused over theft of car

Three boys, aged 15, 14 and 12, were accused at a Juvenile Court yesterday of a connection with the theft of a car.

After reporting that the car had been found, Mr Knapp, for the prosecution, said a woman and her son in an accident on Sunday. The boys were remanded to the care of the authority and the other boy with a curfew from 8 to 10 p.m.

They were charged with stealing a car on March 15, when it was found in Sandhills Lane, Liversham.

Mr Alan Berg, said that for the 15-year-old, denied being the driver vehicle at the time of the theft.

## Security dispute threatens El Al charter flights

From Our Correspondent

El Al threatened yesterday to cancel proposed new services from Luton unless a dispute over security is settled.

The Israeli airline wants to arrange its own anti-terrorist precautions for weekly charter flights, due to start on April 5. But the airport's own force of 68 security guards has passed a resolution saying that the Israelis are not welcome and airport staff have threatened to strike.

Staff representatives met Mr Bernard Collins, the airport director, and a security adviser from the Department of Trade yesterday. Union officials said further talks would be held later.

## Verger who killed wife in bath imprisoned for life

From Our Correspondent

A verger was found guilty at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday of murdering his pregnant wife by killing her in the bath with a fan heater.

Mr Justice Watkins sentenced him to life imprisonment. James Barry Darling, aged 33, an assistant verger at Llandaff Cathedral, pleaded not guilty to murdering his wife, Cleopatra, aged 26, at their home near the cathedral, on October 17 last.

The court was told that Mr Darling put the live fan heater into the bath in which his pregnant wife was kneeling, washing her hair. Mr Darling, who had gone to rinse his hair, said he only expected that his bride of eight months would get a small electric

shock and he did not intend her serious harm.

He was trying to "teach her a lesson" about the dangers of using a heater in the bathroom. He had repeatedly warned her about the danger and wanted to frighten her so that she would not do it again. The heater was switched on and he picked it off the floor, put it on the edge of the bath and let it slide in.

When the fire touched her leg she fell forward and called out his name twice, she said. She was unable to kick the heater away.

The jury was told that on the day of the murder Mr Darling changed the plug on the heater. When it was examined, the earth wire was not connected to the terminal.

## Postmaster's son jailed for mail robbery plots

From Our Correspondent

William Kirby, son of a postmaster, planned two robberies at sub-postoffices but both turned out disastrously for the victims. He was jailed at St Albans Crown Court, Hertfordshire, yesterday.

At one of the robberies, at Barnet, London, the postmaster was gagged and suffocated before the police found him. At another the postmaster himself was arrested and eventually jailed for robbery. Mr Kirby, aged 24, of The Springs, Turnford, near Barnet, who pleaded guilty to two charges of conspiring with others to rob, was jailed for seven years by Mr Justice Peter Pain.

Mr David Tudor Price, for the prosecution, said criminal proceedings against two other men would begin shortly. He said the postmaster who died was Mr George Fairbridge, of Potters Road, New Barnet.

The two robbers hid in a wardrobe at the end of the day's business, they gagged him and tied him up and took his keys. "They got £500 from the safe, but Mr Fairbridge had suffocated and died before the police arrived."

Mr Tudor Price said the other robbery was at Waltham Abbey, when the robbers stole about £15,000 from the safe, using duplicate keys.

## Councillor admits he falsified rebate forms

From Our Correspondent

Ernest Crank, chairman of Manchester Highways Committee, defrauded the council of more than £900. It was stated at Manchester Magistrates' Court yesterday. He was fined £100 after admitting four charges of falsifying rent rebates application forms.

Mr John Coffey, the magistrate, told him: "The greatest punishment is for you to stand in this court and admit that you have defrauded those whom you sought to serve." Mr Crank, aged 75, of Layton Street, Ancoats, was also ordered to repay the £984 he had wrongly obtained.

Mr Christopher Yell, the prosecution, said application forms for rebates Mr Crank had under-declared the income received each month for his council and council meetings.

In April, 1974, he said he was paid £8, when in fact he received £10. He never increased that on three further applications. Mr James Spence, for the defence, said the original application for rebates was the same month that Mr Crank was first elected as a councillor, and Mr Crank estimated what he expected to receive.



## RACE RELATIONS REPORT

## MPs seek overall yearly figure for admissions from Indian subcontinent

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

The Government should announce an overall figure each year for admissions from the Indian subcontinent, the Commons Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration says in its report published yesterday.

But within that overall figure the Government should give priority to two groups in processing applications for entry and also announce allocations for them. They are wives and children, under 16, of those who settled in the United Kingdom before January 1, 1973; and wives and children of those who arrived after that date where there are children under 12 or years of age. The significance of the date is that it was then that the Immigration Act, 1971, came into force.

The admission of fiancées and fiancés would have low priority, the report makes no recommendations about, "although some members of the committee feel strongly that a register, in one form or another, is essential."

It adds: "We consider that the number of immigrants of Asian origin is declining and that the Government should assume that the present policy of the Home Office is sound and that it is not necessary to make any further major immigration, subject only to the

provisions of the Immigration Act, 1971, the immigration rules and the obligations resulting from membership of the EEC; and that the immigration will be allowed only in exceptional individual circumstances.

Primary immigration is of persons who arrive independently to establish themselves and their families, such as United Kingdom passport holders or work-permit holders later accepted for settlement. Secondary immigration is of family members who come to join heads of households established here.

We recommend that the Government give priority to their consideration of British nationality law with a view to publishing a White Paper on their proposals."

The committee emphasizes that nothing in the report should give rise to fears in anyone, irrespective of race, colour or creed who has settled lawfully in the United Kingdom, which was unanimous in its recommendations, says the report.

Noting that public interest and immigration have mainly concerned immigrants from the Indian subcontinent, the report acknowledges that there can be no significant change in the pattern of this immigration and it would be misleading to suggest a great majority come from

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ject to strict control and provided steps are taken to ensure that illegal immigration by way of overstaying or otherwise is effectively dealt with then there will be less public disquiet if those who are entitled to be admitted are allowed to enter the United Kingdom expeditiously."

The category of husbands, fiancés and fiancées had troubled the committee more than any other. On March 22 last year, the immigration rules were amended to provide that where a marriage overseas had been recently contracted the husband would no longer be granted settlement on arrival. Instead he would be admitted for a period of up to 12 months before settlement was considered by the Home Office.

Similar arrangements had been made where marriages were contracted by fiancées in the United Kingdom. "We believe it is important to ensure that marriages of convenience are not being used as a device to evade immigration control. We also believe that immigration control should be seen to be equitable and we are aware that in some cases persons temporarily admitted, for example, as visitors to the United Kingdom, by marrying while they are here, jump the queue of those awaiting immigration."

The committee recommends that the Home Secretary should report as early as possible on the effect of the amendment on the marriage rules regarding husbands and fiancées and should keep under review the position of arranged marriages and of those who temporarily enter the United Kingdom and marry while they are here. Subject to that review, the committee makes no recommendation about husbands.

It believes the position of fiancées is anomalous. "We recommend that fiancées should be subject to the same provisions as fiancés and be required to obtain entry clearances in the same way."

Restrictions on fiancés were imposed in 1968 and removed in 1974. "We do not recommend that these restrictions be restored, but, at a time of public anxiety, we are aware that the settlement of fiancés results in primary immigration and, if it appears to be an exceptional case, it aggravates that anxiety, especially if that settlement also reverses the traditional pattern of family arranged marriages in the Indian subcontinent."

It considered recommending an annual quota for the admission of fiancés, but some members felt strongly that such a quota could alone not avoid being discriminatory. "Therefore, seeking the largest measure of common agreement, we have turned to the general question of the admission of immigrants from the Indian subcontinent."

The committee does deal with the possibility of a quota for United Kingdom passport holders in India. The Home Office said in evidence that it was thought that about 35,000 United Kingdom passport holders, including dependants (who may be of any nationality) are still eligible to come to the United Kingdom from India under the special voucher scheme, but there is uncertainty about the figure.

It appears that all those in East African countries wishing to come will shortly have done so. "Our commitment to the United Kingdom is to accept immigrants from the Indian subcontinent who will have been substantially discharged." But the position in India is obscured by uncertainty and needs clarification, the committee says.

"We therefore recommend that either the global quota be made generally available, or a separate quota for United Kingdom passport holders in India be published. Separate figures should be made available of applications made for special vouchers, entry clearances for eligible dependants, for the voucher and entry clearances issued, and the numbers admitted."

Those could enable a realistic assessment to be made of the potential immigration involved. We recommend that, when the Government can fairly claim to have afforded to those to whom it is clearly committed the opportunity to settle in the United Kingdom, then, after consultation with the other governments concerned, it should announce a date after which special vouchers will be issued only on exceptional grounds in individual cases."

Figures show that in 1976 almost three quarters of all Commonwealth citizens and foreign nationals accepted for settlement on arrival as wives and children were citizens of Bangladesh, India and Pakistan or were United Kingdom passport holders.

The committee also suggests a limitation in the definition of patrials eligible to enter Britain. Most patrials living overseas are in the Old Commonwealth—Canada, Australia and New Zealand. To be classed as a patrial a person has to have a close connection with the United Kingdom and, in addition, be either a citizen of the United Kingdom or colonies or a Commonwealth citizen.

The close connection required is not only through the citizen himself but can also, in the case of a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies, be through a grandparent, who, at the time of the parent's birth, had had such a close connection. "Thus many persons with no personal link with the United Kingdom and who have lived overseas can claim patriality by a one-grandparent qualification."

There is also a small category of Commonwealth citizens, who are accepted for settlement on arrival, described in the Home Office statistics as "Commonwealth citizens with a grandparent born in the United Kingdom." They are not patrials, but do not need a work permit and are given indefinite leave to enter.

The committee recommends that the Government should recognize that to establish a right of abode or to be granted indefinite leave the relationship with a grandparent born in the United Kingdom is too remote generally to justify special treatment under the immigration provisions.

The Home Secretary should consider whether or not, by entry clearances or other means, the entry of patrials who enter the United Kingdom to settle after permanent residence abroad. That is part of the committee's proposals that he should give more information about immigration, in consultation with other departments and particularly the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

"There are no reliable figures about immigrants now resident in the United Kingdom: no reliable statistics which can be described as indicators of immigration; and, even under immigration control, no official estimates published of the numbers that may be expected to apply to be, and will be, admitted in the future, in any particular category, or overall."

Moreover, to date no details have been kept from which such statistics might have been compiled. Even relatively simple matters be determined, the committee says. "For example, we were told by the Home Office that it has no idea how many fiancés there are now in the United Kingdom, nor how many of them had families with children in the Indian subcontinent."

The Home Office statistics provided no basis for calculating changes in population patterns in the United Kingdom and, what we regard as especially important, they provide no information about the numbers of people who, having been given leave to enter, overstay their leave in the United Kingdom."

Home Office figures for admissions do not include those who entered the United Kingdom via the rest of the common travel area (United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and the Republic of

Ireland). Nor does the International Passenger Survey cover movement with the area. The committee says the Home Office is reluctant to make and publish any studies on future immigration. Conceding that there are difficulties inherent in any such exercise, the report adds, however: "Alarmist and often inaccurate reports are likely to gain credence when there is a lack of official information. Moreover, many people simply do not believe that in this sophisticated age such estimates cannot be maintained and suspect that the information is deliberately withheld or not collected; consequently race relations are impaired."

Despite Home Office objections that such estimates would be unreliable and might cause unnecessary public alarm, the committee feels they could be provided, realistically adjusted and suitably qualified.

The Immigration Act, 1971, contains provisions to limit the operation of the common travel area by Order in Council. The committee acknowledges that to do so would have wide implications both political and practical.

"But in view of the shortcomings in the statistics caused by the existence of the common travel area and the fact that the legislation enacted before the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom became members of the EEC, we recommend that discussions be nursed with the Government of Ireland about means of controlling immigration into the United Kingdom of people coming from outside the common travel area and the provision of information about them."

It says too little information is available about people from abroad who overstay in Britain to make possible any realistic estimate of its extent. But overstaying is a matter of great concern. The police, immigration service, internal unit and other authorities should be given many more resources to trace overstayers and to tackle all aspects of illegal immigration. The Department of Health and Social Security should introduce without delay procedures to tighten identity checks and to improve the issuing of national insurance numbers to new applicants.

Equally important would be a check on the employment of overstayers. The Department of Employment appears to have been dilatory, the report says. Urgency, the Government, after consultation with both sides of industry, should introduce measures, if necessary by legislation, to provide effective sanctions against employers who knowingly employ overstayers and illegal immigrants.

But, as a Department of Employment witness said: "A difficulty is that there is at present no comprehensive system of documentation in this country recording identity and immigrant employment status, so there is no way in which employers can distinguish applicants for entry, who should not legally be employed."

The United Kingdom system of immigration control is based on strictly controlled entry and depends upon the examination of applicants in their country of residence or their examination at the ports of entry. With the increase of international travel this system has come under area pressure and, with the growing recognition of the problem of overstayers, has begun to appear inadequate.

Most Continental countries allow a less strictly controlled entry of applicants in their country of residence or their examination at the ports of entry. In the United Kingdom, whatever the form of control on admission, it seems to us that there is now a need for greater and more effective internal control. To consider such a system, the committee recommends that the Government should institute an independent inquiry.

## Proposal to eliminate false documents

The select committee recommends that application for settlement in the United Kingdom for wives, children, other dependants, and fiancées and fiancés should be made by their sponsors in the United Kingdom.

That the committee says, would reduce the temptation to resort to false documents and avoid recourse to agents. It is also much more expensive for United Kingdom-based staff to work abroad.

Another change recommended by the committee is that, to be determined, applications for settlement in the United Kingdom for wives, children, other dependants, and fiancées should be made by their sponsors in the United Kingdom. That would reduce the temptation to resort to false documents and avoid recourse to agents. It is also much more expensive for United Kingdom-based staff to work abroad than in their country.

In the case of fiancées, the sponsor would be the other party to the proposed marriage. In evidence the Chief Inspector of Immigration said that, making their inquiries, the immigration offices, in many cases, notice a marked degree of reluctance by the girl to give some assurance if she herself made the application.

Adding that settlement in the United Kingdom had become economically attractive for fiancées, the committee says their entry should be subject to several of the additional pattern of the dowry. It is now often paid by the fiancé's family. "It is the settled opinion of the United Kingdom Home Office that the dowry is economically attractive. If an Asian girl marrying a fiancé from the Indian subcontinent followed the traditional pattern she could join her fiancé's extended family in the subcontinent."

While in a multicultural society the cultural patterns of ethnic minorities should be acknowledged, we believe that the members of those minorities should themselves pay regard to the norms of their country of adoption and, indeed, also to their own traditional pattern of the bride joining to husband's family."

The committee also recommends that the practice of issuing entry clearances to visitors should not be encouraged. Immigration officers should restrict the leave granted to visitors where and for such periods as they think proper, he present practice, which is one only in some cases, is no longer effective, the committee says. The present procedures are

expensive and entry clearance officers could be more usefully employed. The six months' leave generally granted is often too long a period for the purposes of the visit. The emphasis should be put instead on greater internal control of immigration. But some visitors may wish to have assurance of entry beforehand, so it may be premature to discontinue wholly the practice.

Criticism by some witnesses of delays in the processing of applications for entry certificates, lack of documentation, which makes many people fake papers, the way they may be duped by dishonest agents, and other difficulties lead to further recommendations. Efforts should be made to improve processing, the provision of advisory services should be encouraged and supported, entry certificate officers should make regular visits to those areas from which most of the applicants come and conduct interviews. Steps should be taken to ensure that the applicant fully understands the interpretation. Further discussions should be held with governments in the subcontinent about the provision of documents and alternative evidence where they are not available.

There are difficulties in Bangladesh over tax-dodgers. Single men, when resident in the United Kingdom, have claimed tax relief for non-existent wives and children in Bangladesh. Afterwards some have married and have sought to bring their families to the United Kingdom. Discrepancies are then revealed between their records based on the short families and the facts. In 1967 the Inland Revenue offered an amnesty, but the response was small. The committee supports the Inland Revenue that there should be no further amnesty.

The committee also notes the Home Secretary's recent decision to extend the amnesty for illegal immigrants who entered the country before January, 1973, to those who gained admission by deception. That was to include people affected by recent court decisions. We believe that it should be made clear that there will be no such future amnesties. The expectation of a future amnesty must always be a strong incentive to those who are tempted to evade immigration control."

The next inquiry of the select committee will be into the effect of the United Kingdom's membership of the EEC on immigration policy. First Report from the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration, Session 1977-78, Immigration, Volume 1 (House of Commons Paper 303-1; Stationery Office, 11.35).

correspondent by the Select Committee on Race Relations and Immigration for internal checks on immigrants on continental lines were to go ahead the British way of life would be affected, Mr. Alex Lyon, Labour MP for York, said yesterday.

"The Continental system depends upon identity cards, arbitrary police checks, and hotel registrations as well as reports to the police."

Mr. Lyon, who was formerly a Home Office minister with responsibility for immigration, said the proposal arose from an unjustified fear about the scale of illegal immigration. The committee's deduction that there were substantial numbers of visitors and others overstaying without entitlement conducted with the firm view of immigration from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys.

He and several immigrant groups said they welcomed the recommendation to give priority to wives and children from the Indian subcontinent United Kingdom passport holders from East Africa and India.

But, like immigrants' welfare organizations, he particularly criticized this proposal to put an annual overall figure on admissions from the Indian subcontinent, which was being widely interpreted as a quota in disguise.

The Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants said it would be "the ost explicitly racist provision yet introduced into United Kingdom im-

migration control. "The report will be used by racists and by Mrs. Thatcher to justify their propaganda. It is major recommendations must be rejected by the Government."

The Runnymede Trust forecast that a quota applying to the Indian subcontinent would interfere with the legal right of dependants to join those settled here.

The National Association of Community Relations Councils condemned the committee as having "seen its task purely in terms of looking for more effective and efficient ways of keeping black people out of the country."

Mr. Tara Mukherjee, president of the Confederation of Indian Organizations, said the two most positive proposals in the report were the reform of the national laws and the priority for wives and children in immigration queues. But "suggestions of internal control of immigration smacks of the South African policy of currying pass-laws for one racial group or groups."

The Commission for Racial Equality was also divided in its opinion about the report, welcoming the view that government pledges should be honoured but criticizing the proposal for an annual overall figure from the Indian subcontinent.

Both the Federation of Bangladesh Associations and Mr. Asadul Ghouse, Lewis's senior community relations officer, spoke last night of the fear that the proposals to check on illegal immigrants would bring to immigrant communities.

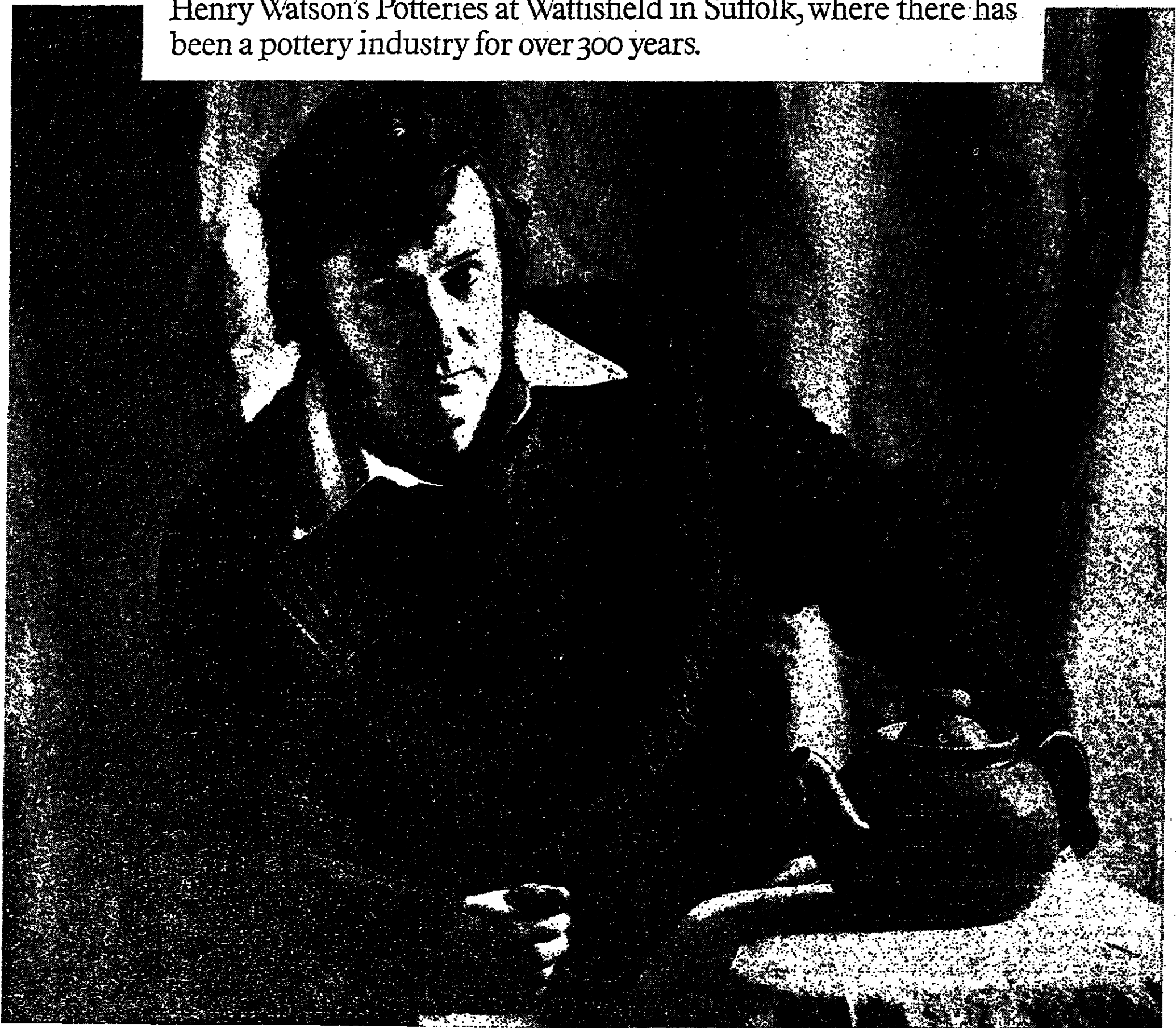
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## HOME NEWS

## Dr Coggan broadcast gets earlier showing

By Clifford Longley  
Religious Affairs  
Correspondent

The BBC bowed to pressure yesterday and rescheduled the Archbishop of Canterbury's Good Friday late night television programme to put it 95 minutes earlier. It will now precede and not follow the late night film, thus avoiding the small hours.

The programme is the last of a week-long series of 15-minute items called Simple Faith. In it, people from various walks of life are interviewed about human predicaments, Dr Coggan then gives a Christian answer.

The series has caused some misgivings in BBC religious television circles, where it is thought that it is unequivocal pro-Christian propaganda of a type that is no longer fashionable or judged acceptable in a pluralistic society.

In explaining its decision yesterday, the BBC pointed out that each programme had been scheduled to come at the end of the day's viewing, and applying that principle to Good Friday's television automatically produced the late timing. The rest of the series had been shown at starting times varying from 11 pm to midnight.

The BBC said yesterday that "on reflection, the criticism of the timing was a fair one".

Pressure on the BBC has come mainly by way of church press and national press. A spokesman for Dr Coggan said yesterday that no part of the church's official machinery for relations with the broadcasting authorities had been used, and "Dr Coggan was standing well back".

The idea of the series was originally suggested by Dr Coggan. Nevertheless the series has had its opponents within the BBC, including some within the religious broadcasting department.

It is suggested both by supporters and defenders of the series that the late-night scheduling, together with the choice of the less popular BBC2, was a kind of compromise in circumstances that had caused some uneasiness within the corporation.

Pressure on the BBC is said to have come exclusively from Evangelical churchmen who wished the programmes to have the widest circulation.

## Conservation orders planned to protect Exmoor scenic areas

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government intends to introduce moorland conservation orders to protect scenic areas of the Exmoor National Park, Mr Denis Howell, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, told the Commons yesterday. He added, however, that it was unlikely that time would be found for the necessary legislation during the present session.

"It would be a matter of deep regret, not least I am sure to those who live on Exmoor, if important areas of moorland were lost before statutory powers become available", he continued.

He hoped that if farmers saw the advantages to ploughing they would give six months' notice.

## River pollution survey is extended

By Our Planning Reporter

An apparent slight setback in efforts to reduce river pollution is recorded in the latest Department of the Environment Survey published yesterday.

In 1975 only 75.6 per cent of all river lengths were classified as unpolluted, compared with 76.1 per cent in 1972; those classified as doubtful rose from 14.7 per cent to 15.8 per cent.

However, the survey suggests that the new water authorities have tended to use stricter criteria in assessing water quality; the extent of the survey has also slightly increased.

The most striking improvement is in the quality of sewage discharge. River Pollution Survey of England and Wales (Stationery Office, £16).

## US policy on spent nuclear fuel 'not new'

By David Nicholson-Lord

The approval by the United States Government for three new shipments of spent uranium oxide fuel to be delivered to the Windscale plant, in Cumbria, for reprocessing drew a cautious response from British Nuclear Fuels Ltd (BNFL) yesterday.

The company and its opponents made clear that the Carter Administration's decision, which came only a few days after the publication of Parker report in BNFL's plans to build a new reprocessing plant at Windscale, does not represent an unexpected wind-

under the voluntary agreement reached with the national park authority in 1968.

Ministry of Agriculture officials would be ready to discuss possible alternative farming programmes and sources of income. He hoped, too, that the authority would be prepared to make temporary management agreements or to buy land.

Mr Howell's statement broadly endorsed the recommendations of the report by Lord Porchester, published last November. Those recommendations, Mr Howell said, had "been welcomed in principle by all those who care for Exmoor".

The national park committee had arranged for a survey and to prepare a plan for designating areas of moor and heath that ought to be conserved. It had also taken steps to establish an advisory committee of all moorland users.

The Government was not, however, disposed to accept that the burden of compensation to farmers affected by conservation orders should fall wholly on central government funds.

Mr Howell confirmed that EEC directives allowed the Minister of Agriculture to take account of the effect on amenity and natural beauty in approving grants.

Applications would therefore be considered on the principle that the Government would not wish to assist the conversion of important areas of moorland to the park authority wished to conserve.

There has been a general decline in deciduous woodland, sometimes accompanied by a dramatic increase in conifer plantations, as in the Brecon Beacons.

Population of the parks has remained almost constant, but in some areas the amount of housing has increased substantially. That apparent anomaly is explained by the growing number of second and holiday homes, which account for up to a third of dwellings in certain parishes.

The commission expresses concern both about the aging resident population of the parks, and about changes in recreational use.

Tenth annual report of the Countryside Commission (House of Commons Paper 273, Stationery Office, £2.65).

## Changes in national parks greater than foreseen

National parks have undergone more extensive changes than were foreseen when they were established in 1949, the Countryside Commission observes in its annual report published yesterday.

The popularly held view of a static and traditional system of upland farming is everywhere contradicted by the increasing numbers of sheep and cattle being kept on hill and upland farms by a declining number of farmers and farmworkers," it says.

Snowdonia National Park has lost three quarters of its farm employees in the past 10 years, and Northumberland has lost two thirds in 20 years. More than a third of rough grazings in Northumberland have disappeared, as has a fifth of the Exmoor moorland.

fall for supporters of the plans in today's Commons debate. Dr Abrams, deputy managing director of BNFL, rejected the idea that the approval signified a softening of the United States attitude to nuclear non-proliferation. The shipments formed part of existing contracts and had been scrutinised by the American Government in accordance with a long established procedure.

About 48 tonnes of spent fuel is to be shipped to Windscale this summer or autumn from three foreign light-water reactors, two in Spain and one in Japan. Because the fuel used

in the reactors is American in origin, the shipments have to be authorised by the United States Department of Energy.

Approval was given for the shipments, including a fourth to the French reprocessing plant at La Hague, near Cherbourg, shortly after the Parker report's publication.

Mr Abrams, director of the Town and Country Planning Association, one of the principal opponents at last year's inquiry, said it was misleading to regard the recent approvals as a fresh departure in United States policy.

Letters, page 19

## Food guides put the emphasis on economy

By Robin Young  
Consumer Affairs  
Correspondent

Two hotel and restaurant guides published yesterday put the emphasis on economy in the search for satisfactory accommodation and cuisine. The conclusion to be drawn from the prices quoted at the press launches of the books was that to succeed in the search Britons should start looking in France.

The 1978 Michelin Red Guide to Great Britain and Ireland introduces two new symbols, both intended to improve coverage in the lower end of the price scale. A red M denotes 50 restaurants serving less elaborate cooking than starred restaurants but meriting attention because the meals are "always carefully prepared".

That category, for example, is the only hotel that qualifies for the Good Food Guide's full tally of distinctions, the Miller Howe at Windermere. Dinner there costs £8 a head.

A second new symbol adopted by Michelin, an ideogram of a simple hut, marks 358 establishments introduced to the Guide as offering satisfactory accommodation at moderate prices.

The Guide's anonymous (but English) editor notes that such places might lack a bar or even a lounge, but they are facilities where they existed would not have been tested. He would expect them to charge £4.50 to £7, single, for bed and breakfast outside London.

The editor said that there had been a clear improvement in British catering since the Guide was first published five years ago. There are now 26 restaurants with single stars (a net gain of three over last year) and an untidy 147 with two stars.

None in Britain qualifies for three stars but this is "not a criticism, but because we want long experience of standards".

Meanwhile, in another part of London, the Logis de France are lauding to more than 3,800 family-run hotels in France. "You can stay overnight in a comfortable hotel in France for as little as £12.80", a representative said. "The average daily rate for full board is £5.67. Water only and room is taken the cost is normally no more for two people than for one."

A French Government Tourist Office official said: "Hotel prices in France have risen by only 0.7 per cent to 8 per cent since 1977".

1978 Red Michelin Guide to Great Britain and Ireland (Michelin Tyre Company, 81 Fulham Road, London, SW3: £3.50).

1978 Guide des Logis de France et de la Région Parisienne (Hachette, 4 Regent Place, London, W1: £4.20 post free).

## Less busy year for coastguards

A total of 7,433 people were rescued around Britain's coasts in 1977, according to coastguard statistics. The figure compares with 7,584 the previous year but the decline reflects the fact that the summer was less fine and fewer holidaymakers visited the shore.

Coastguards coordinated 4,030 rescue efforts, a fall of 331 compared with 1976. Lives lost totalled 208, compared with 239.

## Paddle steamer to go

The last coal-burning paddle steamer in service in Britain, British Rail's Ferry Ship Lincoln Castle, which has been crossing the Humber for 37 years, is to be retired.

## Call for higher incomes for people aged over 75

By Pat Healy  
Social Services  
Correspondent

More than a million people aged over 75 live alone in acute loneliness of a kind they never considered possible, a new survey says today. Many have no remaining relatives and few visitors and must reject any association with old people's clubs, where they might find companionship.

Many are also having to suffer severe money worries in addition to their social isolation. Dr Mark Abrams says in his report, Beyond three score and ten, that more than one fifth of the 800 people interviewed last May needed higher incomes to be able to afford proper food and heating.

"The policy implication here is obvious", Dr Abrams comments. "It is not enough in an era of inflation for the present pensions and benefits of those

aged 75 or more to be fully linked to an appropriate cost-of-living index. Some advance in real income is called for."

Dr Abrams found that 47 per cent of people aged 75 and over lived alone, and 35 per cent of them experienced acute loneliness. Most were women, two thirds of whom had not had children. Their contemporaries who had borne children at the turn of the century did not survive into old age.

Mr David Hobman, director of Age Concern, said the survey clearly implied that the Government must increase the incomes of the very old and that local authorities must make them a high priority for social service support.

## Legal aid at industrial tribunals opposed

By Christopher Thomas  
Labour Reporter

Opposition to extending legal aid to industrial tribunal hearings was expressed yesterday by Mr Bowes Egan, an authority on industrial relations law.

He said, in launching a new book, that there had been a big increase in the representation of parties at tribunals by solicitors or counsel. Three fifths of employers were now legally represented.

"I have no doubt that an employing organisation is best served representing itself through an executive with some knowledge of the law, but particularly one who has an understanding of his own workplace", he said. "The extension of legal aid to industrial tribunals

would not be an unmitigated benefit."

The flow of cases before tribunals, now 40,000 a year, could be checked. "We have the extraordinary situation where every one of the cases settled outside the tribunal is submitted as though it were a continuing quarrel, and is rubber-stamped. The number of cases that appear to be fought in tribunals is greatly in excess of reality."

It means that all the details of a settlement between the parties, which both might regard as confidential between themselves, were put on public record and available for inspection in perpetuity.

From April 1 next there would be a novel state of affairs because lay union

officials would be entitled to time off work to discharge industrial relations duties given to them by their unions. "This changes the position radically from anything that has obtained in the past. In the absence of clear collective agreements the running can be made by the trade unions."

There was a fear among employers of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), a fear intensified in the wake of the Grunwick dispute. "I am told that Acas officers find that some employers are resisting their intervention."

Fighting your case at the industrial tribunals (The New Commercial Publishing Company Ltd, 24 H. Misofoe (RPR), London, W10: £9.50).

## Contempt move over naming of Colonel B

Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, is to bring contempt of court proceedings over a magazine's disclosure of the identity of Colonel B, a witness in a secrets case.

The name was published in The Evening Standard after Colonel B had given evidence at Tottenham Magistrates' Court, London, in criminal proceedings against John Berry, Crispin Aubrey and Duncan Campbell. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Mr Justice Melford Stevenson, Mr Justice Cuddeford and Mr Justice Croom-Johnson) granted Mr Silkin leave yesterday to apply for jail orders against David Clark, Russell Southwood, David Thomas and Philip Kelly, members of The Evening Standard Ltd, a registered friendly society, of Drummond Street, Camden, London, and against Timothy Gossall, its secretary.

Further contempt proceedings are to be brought against the company

## Address of student in cat 'bait' case made public

From Our Correspondent

Sheriff John McInnes ruled at Caper Sheriff Court, Fife, yesterday that the address of a research student involved in feeding live canaries, mice, fish and rats to cats and their kittens could be published.

On the first day of the trial Dr Robert Prescott, aged 38, a lecturer at the psychology department at St Andrews University, Timothy Caro, aged 26, a postgraduate student, was allowed to write down his address "because of possible repercussions".

Yesterday Sheriff McInnes said there was obvious public interest in the case, and he could find no overriding interest in keeping the witness's address out of the public field.

Mr Caro's address is High Street, Little Shelford, Cambridgeshire.

Mr Ralph Brown, the procurator fiscal, said he had been advised by the police that there might be demonstrations, with people coming from the South. "I am told that in the South of England unfortunate beings are being taken by people taking the law into their own hands", he said.

Mr John Mitchell, for the defence, said there was no evidence that the animals had been cruelly treated, tortured or abandoned, as alleged in the charges denied by Dr Prescott.

"This prosecution under the Protection of Animals (Scotland) Act, 1912, is wholly inert", he said. There was not one iota of evidence proving that Dr Prescott behaved cruelly in the manner suggested. The motivation of the experimentation was not cruelty.

Sheriff McInnes said he would give his verdict tomorrow.

## WEST EUROPE

## Giscard hand is strengthened for a policy of social reform to take account of left-wing vote

From Charles Hargrove  
Paris, March 21

President Giscard d'Estaing returned to Paris today, after a couple of days of solitary meditation at Rambouillet, in preparation for his appearance on television tomorrow night to draw the broad lines of the policy of reform and liberalisation which the new Government will be called upon to carry out.

He may also announce the appointment of a new Prime Minister—or confirm M. Raymond Barre in his post, which according to persistent rumours today was increasingly likely.

M. Barre left the Elysée palace this morning with a smile which gave strength to these rumours. M. Giscard d'Estaing's intentions, however, remain a mystery and his closest advisers professed complete ignorance of them.

"He is a very secretive man," one of them said. But it seems highly likely that he will put an end to this suspense tomorrow night, if he does not do so earlier in the day.

There are a number of reasons why M. Barre might stay on. He led the Government to victory; his economic policy is beginning to show fruit; and he has proved himself as a politician of considerable stature during the campaign.

But if the President really wants to drive home that a new era in French politics dawned last Sunday, and that he is determined to pursue a centre-left policy of reform and social justice, he may underwrite it by choosing a new personality, with "left-wing sensitivities", as it is said here.

This would more easily convince those voters who opposed the Government in the election that their criticism was unfounded, and their disappointment will be taken into account.

That is where the name of

Mme Simone Veil, the Minister of Health, and the most popular political figure in the country (if the polls are still to be believed) is most frequently mentioned.

This would make sense if, as many commentators point out, one of the lessons of the election is that a majority voted more against the Union of the Left and its common programme, than in favour of the outgoing government majority.

The President cannot but be realistic about his possibilities for manoeuvre in and out of Parliament. The left-wing vote was the largest in France for years. The Gaullists are back again as the strongest party, and as the meeting of their central committee made clear yesterday, determined to defend their independent position.

By comparison, the Giscardian non-Gaullist Union pour la Démocratie Française is not so strong or so well-organised as yet as to enable the President to do what he likes.

What the President must be hoping is that the lessons of the election will force him to do what he likes, and what he must be able to do in the past four years.

The right to call it thus for convenience's sake, has been so frightened by the prospect of defeat, and so relieved by the turn of events, that it will be more disposed to listen to him when he talks about the advantages of reform over revolution.

M. François Ceyrac, the chairman of the employers' federation, while demanding a return to free enterprise, insisted that the turn of events, that it will be more disposed to listen to him when he talks about the advantages of reform over revolution.

President Giscard d'Estaing's case for reform and social justice is also strengthened by the release of the left into mutual reconstruction and division, and by many signs

indicating that there will be a "social third sector". The aim, through the unions, strikes, what they have obtained through the ballot.

The Left Radicals are on the verge of a split, true at least for the time being. The Union of the Left is right wing, including M. de Felice, the party chairman, regards it as a "third sector".

The Socialists are pinning blame for defeat on the Gaullists, accusing them of "serving the interests of the right". But their militants of the Ceres are to be associated with this yesterday by the party congress.

The Communists, too, part, decline any responsibility for defeat, and accuse Socialists of having gone on their undertakings. They may want to see their reputation as the class by attempting to win labour unrest, against Government. But the use of force is not seen as a means to achieve this.

The Communist League, the federation CGT, indicates pressure on the Government to fulfil its electoral programme and these are quite far from the "right wing" of the government, but we are not sure if we are right.

They will use all the tactics of negotiation and trial action to obtain their ends. But there is a chance that they could, even wanted to, bring a mobilization of their purely political barons the Government.

The mass of the people seem unconcerned, present, and waiting what the Government will do.

## A town lives up to its tradition of showing France how to vote

From Ian Murray  
Briare, Loiret, March 21

The stout man in the Grappe d'Or restaurant stabbed his fork pointedly and said through a mouthful of roast lamb: "I don't see why, just because we are typical, we should be treated as freaks. We are people not a set of figures".

Nevertheless, the figures show that over the better part of this century this town in the heart of France has always voted the same way as the country. Until 1973 less than 1 per cent supported the level of party support in the town from the level of party support in the country.

Since 1973, if the gap has tended to be a little wider, the town has always followed the national trend—or viewed from here—the nation has always followed the lead of Briare. Before and after every election journalists descend on the town to try to find out why.

In 1974, the town was slightly more in favour of President Giscard d'Estaing than it was for M. François Mitterrand. Last year, like much of France, it elected a Socialist mayor in the municipal elections. This year, as it has throughout the history of the Fifth Republic, it elected its Gaullist deputy, M. Xavier Deniau.

It is tempting to think that it would save France a lot of time and trouble if it gave the 3,429 voters of Briare a proxy for the rest of the population every time there was an election.

The stout man with the fork would have none of it. "We make up our minds individually, not like a flock of sheep".

Despite his anger, he agreed that the history of the town mirrored in great part the history of France over the past two centuries.

An essentially agricultural community until 1845, it then started a rapid industrial expansion, the result of the opening of an enamel tile and button factory, which attracted the population off the land and to this day remains the town's largest employer.

The tiles they make have been used for the walls of the new Paris Métro stations and export markets are opening up in the Middle East and Britain.

The fortunes of the factory, and the town with it, have followed a national economic pattern, with jobs rising and falling in time with them. But this relatively recent grafting of an industrial unit onto an agricultural community means that the population, as in most of the rest of France, retains the cautious temperament of the farmer.

The town, like so many others in France, has not developed a social side to satisfy the needs of the young generation, while jobs outside the enamel factory are scarce and lack variety. For the young the only alternative is to migrate to Orleans or Paris.

The population is growing, but principally among the pensioners.

In an attempt to alter this pattern a number of schemes, funded by the region, are being started—the first of their kind in France—to build the social and economic infrastructure and create an environment to hold the young while caring for the old.

Nevertheless, the years of emigration by the younger and brighter section of the community have left the

town in positions of siltability in the town's knowledge and expertise it the drive to overcome its ill quickly.

The lack of professional opportunities and low white collar workers that many of the older properties in the town are being bought as houses by Parisians, two hours away by motorway.

The town's main RN7 road south which brings traffic thundering through older people cannot cross the road younger ones are wor when the new bypass is opened next year.

The town is a total 1 with nothing more beyond a view of the longest canal bridge in the Loire by Gustav 1894.

If Briare is typical then these problems, employment, the quality and the economic conditions of an aging population and the lack of local must typify the province of France and in large they do so.

These are the sort of things which led the choice of a Socialist mayor and to fight with mon Programme of wing parties. Why change their minds later?

According to the secretary, it was not so difficult as he realised the promises that I made would have to be. "It was all too believe," he said.

## Last of French election winners are named

A list of the final outstanding results of Sunday's general election in France appears below. The figures after each name represent the percentage vote that the successful candidate received.

17 M. J. Marete (RPR) 59.66  
24 H. Misofoe (RPR) 55.43

Sainte-Maritime  
1 M. A. Duromea (PCF) 55.59

Haute-Savoie  
1 M. J. Brocard (UDF-PR) 51.28  
2 M. G. Pianta (UDF-PR) 56.99

Nord  
12 M. M. Coimette (RPR) 56.45

Loire  
6 M. P. Clément (UDF-PR) 57.36

Savoie  
1 M. L. Besson (PS) 50.77  
2 M. M. Barrier (RPR) 54.29  
3 M. J.-P. Cor (PS) 51.08

Rhône  
6 M. C. Harau (PS) 57.32

Ille-et-Vilaine  
5 M. M. Colat (RPR) 63.92

Val-de-Marne  
8 M. M. Kaimisi (PCF) 50.40

TERritoires  
Guadeloupe  
1 RPR 60.26  
2 M. M. Merland (RPR) 56.65  
3 M. R. Guillof (RPR) 73.44

Key to parties:  
RPR: Rassemblement pour la République (Gaullist);  
UDF: Union pour la Démocratie Française (non-Gaullist Giscardians);  
PCF: Parti Communiste Français;  
PS: Parti Socialiste.

## Fire hits 2.5 acres of Riviera fore

Nice, March 21.—A fire through 2,500 acres in the south of France. Three aircraft doused with tons of water winds spread the fire that they could be firemen said.

The first and last began yesterday at the Vence, but by today nearly extinguished the aircraft, from another fire flared in inaccessible hill near two other fire rapidly spreading north.

On the western Riviera, near another 500 acres were to be burning rapidly the mobilisation of companies of firemen.

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# Britain is ready to deal with new Executive Council in Rhodesia

By David Spanier  
 Diplomatic Correspondent

Britain will be ready to deal with the new executive council in Rhodesia, as a *de facto* organization heading the Government in Salisbury, although in Foreign Office eyes it is officially illegal, being part of the rebel regime.

The Foreign Office is not going to stand on its dignity in the matter, it appears. What really matters, it was explained yesterday, is how the various problems facing Rhodesia are handled by the council in the transition period leading to majority rule.

The council will be judged on its record: its attitude towards releasing political detainees, its proposals for absorbing guerrilla fighters into the security forces, the arrangements it makes for the transition period and the handover of power promised at the end of the year and the other items on what is, by any standards, a very heavy agenda.

British policy will concentrate on widening the agreement to improve the elements which Dr David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has said are inadequate through maintaining contact with all the parties concerned, including the Patriotic Front guerrillas.

Mr Joshua Nkomo, joint leader of the Patriotic Front, has again rejected the latest British appeals for all parties to attend a new conference on Rhodesia.

Speaking in Lusaka yesterday, he said an all-party conference could come only after

Britain had met exclusively with the guerrilla leaders, to resolve the military issues. He urged Dr Owen to reconvene the Malta conference, held at the end of January.

The Zambian authorities have claimed that jets and helicopters were used in the recent attack across the Zambesi river, Mr Nkomo did not produce any evidence to substantiate his claim, Reuters reports.

Salisbury, March 21.—A transitional multiracial government designed to bring black rule in Rhodesia by the end of the year after almost a century of white supremacy was sworn in today.

Leadership of the Government will rotate every four weeks, and today Mr Ian Smith, the Prime Minister, was chosen its first chairman after he and three black nationalist leaders drew lots.

Mr Smith will be followed by Chief Jeremiah Chirau, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, in that order. Asked how the lots were drawn, Mr Smith said: "Four pieces of paper."

The transitional government is charged with guiding the country to one-man, one-vote elections and black majority rule by December 31. It was sworn in by the black Suffragan Anglican Bishop of Maseru, the Right Rev Patrick Muremodomo.

The all-white Rhodesian Cabinet met for the last time early today before handing over to the transitional regime, which will have a small black majority.—Reuters.

# Ex-Premier plays Pakistan's rulers in letter from condemned cell

## Mr Bhutto denies guilt and hints at appeal

From Richard Wigg  
 Islamabad, March 21

Mr Bhutto today hinted for the first time that he may appeal against the death sentence passed by the Punjab High Court last Saturday.

The hint came in a letter the former Prime Minister handed to Mr Yahya Bakhtiar, his chief counsel, in the condemned cell at Kor Lakhpar Jail, Lahore, today.

"I am not afraid of death, however I am not closing my mind. The interest of the country is supreme," Mr Bhutto declared. "I will give you my final answer (on whether to appeal) after my wife and daughter meet me."

Begum Nusrat Bhutto is expecting to see her husband tomorrow for the first time since the judgment. She is under house arrest in Lahore. Their daughter, Benazir, is similarly detained in Karachi.

Yesterday Mr Bhutto had indicated he was "adamant" he would not appeal, against his sentence, passed after he was found guilty of ordering the murder of a political opponent. But he did give Mr Bakhtiar power of attorney.

Mr Bhutto's letter declares flatly: "I did not kill that man, my God is aware of it. I am big enough to admit if I had done it. That admission would have been less of an ordeal and

humiliation than this barbarous trial.

"A Muslim's fate is in the hands of God Almighty. I can face him with a clear conscience and tell him that I rebuilt his Islamic state of Pakistan from ashes into a respectable nation. I am entirely at peace with my conscience in this black hole, Kor Lakhpar."

Mr Bhutto uses scathing language against his trial judges and the generals who deposed him last July. This so-called elite stinks to high heaven. It is perversely pious and pompous and operates on a philosophy of you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours."

Our Delhi Correspondent

writes: Indian opinion though subdued, favours Government intervention with the Pakistan military regime.

A few MPs have written to Dr Kuri-Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, asking him to intervene.

Some Rajya Sabha (Upper House) members, today urged Government intervention, while the vice-president of Muslim League in Uttar Pradesh, Mr Shujat Ullah Khan, has said that India should act to save Mr Bhutto.

So far the Indian Government has refused to comment on the grounds that the sentence is a Pakistani domestic matter.

# China to loan £29m to Bangladesh

Dacca, March 21.—Bangladesh will receive an interest-free loan of about £29m from China under an agreement signed here today by Mr Li Hsien-Nien, the Chinese Vice-Premier, at the end of his four-day official visit to Dacca.

Most of the money will be used for a urea fertilizer project and a water conservancy scheme to irrigate 5,000 acres of land near Dacca. The remainder will be a commodity credit. The loan will be spent over seven years.

An agreement on scientific and technological cooperation for the exchange of experts and expertise between the two countries was also signed.—Agence France-Press.

# Argentine officers discuss plans for new regime

From Our Correspondent  
 Buenos Aires, March 21

The Argentine military junta has been holding discussions during the past week with all serving generals, admirals and air marshals on what is to happen after the term of office the juntas set for itself expires in March next year.

The discussions have centred on a working paper produced by the Army which follows a naval study on the subject. A similar paper is expected from the Air Force within the next month. The services are seeking to maintain a united front despite personal disagreements between the naval and military commanders in chief.

There is agreement on three points: The junta of the three commanders in chief will be the ultimate authority to whom the President, as chief executive, is responsible; the President should not be a member of the junta as at present, but a retired officer; and a civilian movement should be formed to support the government in principle.

Many points remain to be resolved, however, among them the choice of the next President, the exact division of responsibility between the President and the military junta, the timing of the changes, and whether or not the civilian movement should be a political party in the old style.

# Shooting orders for troops in Jakarta unrest

Jakarta, March 21.—Indonesian troops have been ordered to fire on anyone trying to resist or escape arrest during disturbances in the city, the Jakarta's garrison commander, Major-General Norman Saseno, said today.

Thirty-five people have been arrested in the capital since the opening on March 11 of the People's Congress.

Sources said that in addition to a petrol bomb attack on the Sheraton Hotel, where many Congress delegates are staying, at least three taxis had been badly damaged by petrol bombs. The Congress is expected to elect President Suharto to a third term of office tomorrow.—Reuters.

# Cuban minister ends visit to Ethiopia

From Charles Harrison  
 Nairobi, March 21

Senior Isidoro Malmierca Peol, the Cuban Foreign Minister, has left Addis Ababa after a four-day visit to Ethiopia during which he had lengthy discussions with Ethiopian leaders and met front-line commanders on a visit to some of the areas until recently occupied by Somali forces.

Addis Ababa radio quoted the Cuban minister as saying that his talks were a "tangible contribution to the further development and the strengthening of fraternal relations between the two socialist countries."

No precise details have been given of the subjects covered but Senior Peol was said to have discussed matters concerning the forthcoming non-aligned summit meeting due to take place in Havana.

Senior Peol visited Dire Dawa, one of the main bases from which Cuban forces operated with the Ethiopian Army in retaking the Ogaden from the Somalis earlier this month.

The radio said he had talks with front-line commanders in the area and inspected some of the arms captured by the Ethiopian forces. He said these confirmed the involvement of Nato and other "reactionary" countries in the Somali invasion of Ethiopia.

Mr Richard Moose, President Carter's Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, was still in Mogadishu today, having extended his stay. He toured some development projects including the

resettlement area in southern Somalia for former nomads. Mr Moose is expected to further talks with President Siad Barre on a request for military aid now that Somalia has withdrawn its forces from the Ogaden. So far, the Somalis have not agreed to renounce publicly all claims adjoining areas of Ethiopia, Kenya and Djibouti which are mainly populated by So-

The United States insists such claims must be renounced as a basis for future peace talks.

Nairobi, March 21.—guerrillas today reported they had inflicted heavy Soviet and Cuban-supplied Ethiopian forces in the Ogaden region.

It was the first reported fighting since a Ethiopian offensive led by Cuban-supplied guerrillas in the earlier this month.

As a result of the all guerrilla Somali troops withdrawn from the Ogaden, the guerrillas are carrying on fighting to full objective of ending Ethiopian rule in the region.

The guerrilla newspaper, published in Mogadishu, reported that the Ethiopian forces suffered heavy losses in fighting near Goro.

Mr grant Britain has a long grant to Somalia to increase its technical aid programme to that of Mrs Judith Barr, for Overseas Development announced yesterday.

# Silent prayers at church walls in Addis Ababa

Continued from page 1

and sent home. The parents often are forbidden to mourn and to hold the traditional mourning ceremonies.

Apart from the sub-district prisons, there are the big government jails. They are being filled indiscriminately with victims of malicious denunciations. Every night the officers in charge of these prisons receive lists of names and have then to decide how to dispose of the prisoners.

Some are given the chance of living another day, others are being locked up for a while and then taken by lorry into the streets where they are publicly shot. About 100 or 150 people are being killed in that way every night.

People in Ethiopia ask what are the international organizations doing, many of whom have offices in Addis Ababa. Their officials are driven in limousines past these corpses, they hear the shootings and then they go on drinking whisky at parties.

The general opinion here is that the Russians are forcing the Ethiopians to kill their countrymen. They have been told that by red terror can the will of the people be broken and all be forced to become communists. Some have been broken, but many more have become mentally deranged.

The talk of a non-political church must seem utterly absurd in the face of the horrors committed here. Such talk is a sin against the Holy Ghost.

We hear shots; we see and hear at regular intervals, the huge Russian freight aircraft. Some people whisper to me that in their sub district 300 young people were arrested last night, perhaps 80 in another sub-district. But nobody dares to say that aloud.

In one family, father, mother and all the older children were arrested, but three small children, under the age of six were left behind. None of the neighbours dares to take care of them. This would amount to a death sentence. To help these children would be an act of Christian compassion; yet it would also be a political act of daring.

Passing Mexico Square we see three corpses and much blood. Next to the corpses are the usual notes. As we reach the church people touch the church walls with their lips, hands and foreheads—and pray silently.

After the service a friend told me that his daughter was arrested last Friday. Three hundred people were thrown into the district jail that night. They had to sit on the bare floor. If anyone dozed off he was immediately assaulted and called anarchist, feudalist, and exploiter of the people. Of the 300 no fewer than 56 were eventually taken away and shot in the streets.

The sermon in the churches should be about those violent deaths which everyone sees in the streets—but who dares? When I returned from the service in the afternoon I saw at many doors and gates, large posters reading "The Red Terror shall flourish". We in an owner who dares to remove a poster which in fact announces his own impending murder.

The imam at the great mosque was hit and felt to the ground seemingly dead. But later he recovered. When the Military Government heard of this they invited him and expressed regret. He was told: "Is it not terrible that anarchists should have stormed your mosque and killed so many innocent people?"

The old imam replied: "In our district there are no anarchists. You have done this, but why? There were only poor and simple people in the mosque standing there with the Koran in their hand. We prayed for rain and for bread, yet you have killed 50 of them. Why?"

He received no reply was allowed to go home the next day he was away and has not been of since.

Today there were many corpses in the. The red terror is not claimed in posters and but also on the radio we were told that our leader is responsible for political instruction in members of the Police to explain to children the Bible read out in ideological clearance classes in the church as particularly suspect; they vined that it is a red Central Intelligence. They open it and find wires.

Blood fills the Mothers are demented worry. But worry is right word. It is a question of all the sense question: when will it turn of my child, who body be placed in iron door.

The blood in the s thick like oil. It does appear. At times a n appear next to a coring: Sorry, this kill due to a mistaken ident. Some priests of th above Church are trying to terms with the rest to make arrangements red terror. The wants the church and mic authorities to co seminar to determine rect political orientation. A priest called Solomon is responsible for Sl vince, has volunteered vene such a conference. Everybody knows means: the leaders church are to learn Leninism and to agree is their duty to condon explain the measures government and to apt red terror and the nation of the Somalis.

Mr Solomon and one colleague of his, Mr Shait, were in Moscow at the great peace representing the Christians of Ethiopia.

Visitors who come leave quickly can see out what is really happening. The present state had killed three predecessors and then to his fellow-chairmen newspapers had to s nel Atinatu had to s he put the Ethiopian above ideology; he is well-being of the people highly than the application scientific socialism.

The tortures resort the sub-districts. The methods and system have been from Eastern Europe particularly East German secret security office is general from the Democratic Republic.

The recruitment of sans fear war on r hos produced famine order. University teachers were transp terday to the harve Awash valley.

When the lesson church last Sunday, collapsed in the cell and started crying. There was hardly that church who have wanted to crying for a son or a father or a daughter, for all those thousands who have been killed.

Thanks to your get up and go, we offer more places in Europe to get up and go to.

We fly to more international destinations in Europe from our home base than any other European airline flies from theirs. And with good reason. Over the years, the initiative of the British businessman has taken him to markets

that many of his European competitors have been slow to exploit. So as British trade has grown so has our route map. Today, flying to more than just the obvious places gives you a distinct edge.

Because while your competitors are sitting around waiting for connections, you can already be getting down to business, having flown directly to your destination. When you travel to Europe, fly the flag and feel at home.

British Airways 58 European destinations from Heathrow.									
Air France 48 European destinations from Paris.									
KLM 46 European destinations from Amsterdam.									
SAS 45 European destinations from Copenhagen.									
Swissair 39 European destinations from Zurich.									
Lufthansa 38 European destinations from Frankfurt.									
Sabena 31 European destinations from Brussels.									
Alitalia 27 European destinations from Rome.									
Iberia 23 European destinations from Madrid.									

Figures above based on current timetables.

British airways

We'll take more care of you



John Smith



Jelly notes

## OVERSEAS



Rain forces farmers to move their cattle to high ground in New South Wales.

## Over 800 made homeless as floodwaters invade towns

One man drowned trying to rescue a woman from a river near Canberra, and another was electrocuted at Port Macquarie, north of Sydney, while helping a man escape from his flooded house. A young couple have been found drowned in a car near Parramatta, a suburb of Sydney.

Canberra, a town south of Sydney, is surrounded by swirling floodwater, with more than 40 houses and two hotels under water. On the south coast of New South Wales, round the town of Nowra, nearly 200 families have been evacuated and a state of emergency has been declared.

The town of Robertson had one of the heaviest falls in the state—36in over the four days of the storm.

## B forged prayers at port

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## Author fears for Soviet citizenship if he travels

Moscow, March 21.—

Vladimir Voinovich, the

Russian novelist, said today that

he was refusing invitations to

lecture in the West because he

feared to lose his Soviet

citizenship if he left the coun-

try. He was expelled from the

Writers' Union in 1974.

Mr Voinovich, whose satirical

novel on wartime Russia, *The**Adventures of Private**Chonkin*, has won critical praise

in the West, said that he had

intended to apply for permis-

sion to make a visit abroad but

would not now do so.

He had made this decision

after the Soviet Government

recently deprived Maslisa

Rostropovich, the cellist, his

wife Galina Vishnevskaya, the

singer, and former General

Pyotr Grigorenko of their

citizenship while they were in

the West.

Mr Voinovich said in a state-

ment made available to Western

journalists: "I have under-

stood that any trip of my own

would be the same as voluntary

exile and therefore I am

changing my previous plans."

He has invitations from the

American Pen Club, Columbia

University, the universities of

Wisconsin and Missouri, the

British National Book League,

the Georges Pompidou Centre

in Paris and the Bavarian Fine

Arts Academy.

Mr Voinovich today issued a

copy of a letter he had written

to Mr Nikolai Shchelokov, the

Minister of the Interior, saying

that the police in Ordzhonikidze,

in the southern Ukraine, had

told his father last month that

he was missing from home and

feared dead. Two weeks after

hearing this his mother, who

had been ill, died.

Mr Voinovich said that the

police had also told his rela-

tives in other parts of the

country the same story.

Moscow police knew he was

alive and well because they had

been to his home to question

him on his income at the time

he was said to be missing, the

letter said.—Reuter.

## Yugoslav trial of pro-Soviet exile

From Dassa Terizian

Belgrade, March 21

Mr Milena Perovic, a leading

Yugoslav exile, who was kid-

napped in Switzerland last

summer, goes on trial tomorrow

on charges of plotting to over-

throw the government with the

intent of bringing Yugoslavia

into the Soviet bloc.

If convicted he faces the

death penalty though such a

sentence is usually commuted

immediately to 20 years

imprisonment.

The indictment covers a

period of 20 years beginning

with his escape to Albania with

a group of Soviet sympathizers

in 1957. He then resided for 15

years in the Soviet Union from

where he is alleged to have

conducted a conspiracy against

the Titoist regime culminating

in an abortive attempt to set

up an illicit Communist party

in Yugoslavia in 1974.

The attempt failed and 14

people who had attended a

meeting at which Mr Perovic,

then still living in the Soviet

Union, was elected secretary-

general, were arrested.

Mr Perovic admitted being

the chief ideologist and orga-

nizer of this attempt. After

Yugoslav protests to the Soviet

Union, the Soviet authorities

sent him to the West.

Another Yugoslav pro-Soviet

exile, Mr Vlado Dapcevic, also

disappeared in similar circum-

stances from a hotel in Buche-

arest three years ago. He later

accused the Yugoslav police of

kidnapping him. He was sen-

tenced to 20 years imprison-

ment on charges similar to

those faced by Mr Perovic.

## Freed S African editor given new paper

From Eric Marsden

Johannesburg, March 21

Mr Percy Qoboza, who was

released two weeks ago after

six months in detention without

trial, is to become editor next

month of the Transvaal edition

of *The Post* and the *Weekend**Post*.

These are the newspapers

which have taken over much

of the readership of *The World*,  
the Johannesburg daily news-

paper which Mr Qoboza was

editing when he was arrested on

October 19 last year.

*The World* remains banned

and last November its registra-

tion as a newspaper lapsed.

This meant that if the ban on

the newspaper was lifted its

proprietors would be liable for

a deposit of up to £12,000 to re-

register it.

Mr Qoboza was one of about

50 prominent black leaders

arrested last October. Nine

others were freed with him

early this month. Those still

held include his colleague, Mr

Aggrey Khashe, who was editor

of the *Weekend World*.The *Post*, a Durban news-

paper, inaugurated a Transvaal

edition to fill the gap left by

*The World*. It and the Sunday

version are produced in the

offices vacated by *The World*

and have retained some of the

features of the banned news-

paper.

Mr Qoboza, who was released

by order of Mr James Kruger,

the Minister of Justice, was

told that no conditions have

been set for his freedom. Mr

Kruger added, however, that

he could give no guarantee that

Mr Qoboza would be immune

from further action against him.

Before the banning of *The**World* Mr Qoboza was called

in by Mr Vorster, the Prime

Minister, and Mr Kruger and

told his newspaper was propa-

gating violence.

## Cambodia troops accused of mass killings

Hongkong, March 21.—

Hundreds of Cambodian troops

were killed in fighting around

the coastal town of Ha Tien

and the town of Budop north

of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)

Hanoi radio reported tonight.

It accused the Cambodian

soldiers of having massacred

hundreds of Vietnamese civil-

ians, mostly old people, women

and children.

A Vietnamese survivor es-

timated that 90 per cent of the

300 inhabitants of the hamlet

in Kien Giang province had

been massacred. The radio said

that even newborn babies

were killed. — Agence France-

Presse.

## Terrorist raid

Baghdad, March 21.—Terrorists

with sub-machine guns overran

a town in northern Colombia,

killing a policeman and making

off into the surrounding hills

with arms, medical drugs and

money.

## Polish woman sails round the world single handed

Warsaw, March 21.—A

Polish yachswoman has

become the first woman to sail

single handed round the world,

the news agency PAP reported

today.

Mrs Krystyna Chojnowska-

Liskiewicz, who is 41, and a

shipbuilding engineer, com-

pleted her voyage in just

under two years on board the

32ft yacht *Mazowiec*.

She was ahead of Miss

Naomi James of Britain and

Miss Brigitte Oudry of France,

who are both attempting a

similar feat.

Mrs Liskiewicz was expected

in Las Palmas in the Canary

Islands in three or four weeks.

She told PAP by radio:

"There were times when I

thought I would never manage

it, but now it is all over."

She was feared missing in

the Atlantic for more than a

month until she made contact

with a Polish Antarctic station

on March 3 or 4. She left Cape

Town on the final leg of her

voyage on February 5.

Mrs Liskiewicz sailed more

than 28,500 miles crossing the

Atlantic, the Panama Canal,

the Pacific to Australia, the

Indian Ocean to South Africa

and then turning north to the

Canaries.

Miss James, on board

Express Crusader and Miss

Oudry, on board *Géz*, both

have some way to go in their

attempts to sail round the

world.

Mrs Liskiewicz had kidney

trouble last year and had to

undergo two weeks of hospital

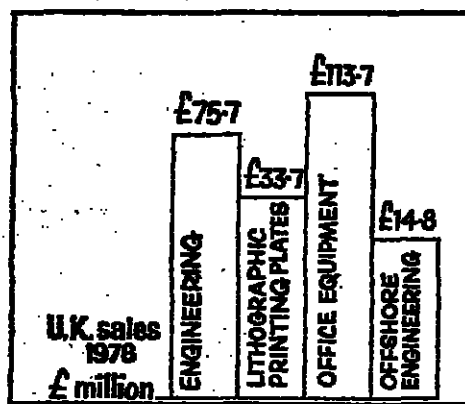
treatment in Australia. Born in

Warsaw she began sailing at

school and received a captain's

certificate in 1966.—Reuter.

## Some facts about Vickers. What we make. Where we sell. And why we succeed.



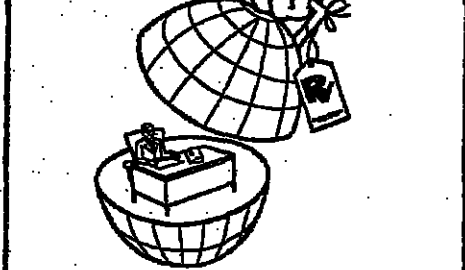
## Our Main U.K. Sales Areas.

In 1977, we continued to achieve outstanding results in such

important product areas as engineering, printing plates and

supplies through Howson-Algraphy, office equipment

through Roneo Vickers and Offshore Engineering.

















Mrs Caldwell has won good deal of praise for her improvement this season and her partner added his share. He is as anxious as anyone in the tournament to win, but he is not so anxious to have some trouble on the greens, here and there hitting the ground before the ball with his putter but he says that this is the best he can do. In both matches yesterday they made such good use of their strokes that they won without having to play the arduous out.

A windy day brings in casualties and among them were Clark and Hughesdon, winners two years ago. They ran into a barrage of shots from their opponents, losing the first hole, then the second, then the fourth at the turn to a 20, which in that wind was better than average. They won the 26th hole but lost the 27th and 28th, and ended indignantly with a tee shot put far removed from "Clavys".

Glady's and King went to extra holes again but this time failed to recover. Their opponents, Tucker and Wright, two professional, kept in touch by holding the 25th hole, then the 26th, then the two down at the turn. But they were used to that kind of thing and they had been four down before they had to play the 26th. They had had won at the 20th, then they won again at the 26th, getting down in two from off the green. They won the 27th and 28th, too. Davies and King have the same is true and Clark and

**Julia Greenhalgh : benefitted from her graphite driver.**

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# Cup format put to the test

[illegible]

**shines but  
st laugh**

The first day of Doncaster's March sales, confined to two-year-olds, was a landmark for Sam Holford and his partners in Bloodlines Associates Ltd. This new company paid the top price of 9,000 guineas for Hab-a-Nick, a colt by Habtur submitted by Peter Robinson's Fitzroy stables. The colt was bought for a Venezuelan banker-captain Antonio Carrero, who has four two-year-olds in training with Philip Mitchell at Epsom. Mitchell will also have charge of this chestnut.

The same agency were underbidders for a chestnut filly by Right Tick sent up from Brian Schowell, at 5,400 guineas. On this occasion they were beaten by

Conditions	Weather		
Off Plate	Runs to rest.	(5 pm)	
Crest	Poor	Snow	°C
Powder	Good	Snow	-4
Powder	Good	Snow	-2
Powder	Poor	Snow	-2
Powder	Good	Snow	-3
Heavy	Fair	Cloud	2
Heavy	Good	Snow	4
Varied	Fair	Snow	-3

Representatives of the Ski Club were U and U to upper slopes. The

[illegible]

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia 1, New York Islanders 2; Montreal Canadiens 5, Vancouver Canucks 1.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are under 15 years of age is expected to increase from 1.1 billion to 1.5 billion. The number of people aged 65 and over is expected to increase from 250 million to 450 million. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion. The number of people aged 15 and over is expected to increase from 3.5 billion to 4.5 billion.

the 1990s, the number of people in the world who are undernourished has declined from 760 million to 600 million. The number of people who are malnourished has declined from 1.1 billion to 800 million. The number of people who are obese has increased from 100 million to 300 million. The number of people who are overweight has increased from 100 million to 300 million. The number of people who are obese and overweight has increased from 100 million to 300 million. The number of people who are obese and overweight has increased from 100 million to 300 million.

**The beginning of the end for Grecian Alpha at Fontwell as he parts company with Martin O'Halloran.**

Hywel Davies may as well be a Cardiganshire, but, as far as he is concerned, there is no place in the little Sussex course at Foulton for a Welshman. The 22-year-old former Aberystwyth student rode his first winner, Mr Know All, and yesterday afternoon, four weeks after turning out, he was back to win a £1000 purse to 10 to 1 with a double on *Thorscore* and *Gathering Storm*. "I was now on my feet," he said. "I've joined the paid ranks. I have had a little success in that period, and this is already my third year," he said the youth, Welshman. "Half of my winners, including my other two, have been ridden by me." He was taking a business study course when I began riding him, he said. "I was a bit of a regress at giving up my studies," he added. "I was a bit of a mess when I began, but I had a consistent record when romping home by 20 lengths, ahead of the *coupee* in the Flansham Novices' Handicap."

Although the winning distance was only four lengths, Davies had a good run. He was ridden by Clifford, scorer, Gathering Storm, that margin gave no indication of the ease with which he disposed of his rivals. He was the favourite for his fourth win of the season.

It was a splendid display much to the delight of the owner, Douglas, who recalled that his horse began his winning ways as a show hunter. That brought back memories of the hope of the favourite being the winner of the sweeping-aloft leader Tommy's Boy in the Munihum horse's hurdle.

Miss Charlotte Brew made history last year when becoming the first woman to ride in the St. Leger, and she was the rider, under, Barney Court, who eventually refused four out. She looked to have been a good rider for the chance when partnering Golden Hammer at Aintree on April 1.

The Whitbread is one of a choice of races and the winner, Peter Scot, as he could also go in for either the Scottish Grand National or Midlands National.

It was a fine day for racing, early on in the race, had him in the challenging position over the fence in the straight, where Wally Wince was in the field. It was nearing home that Peter Scot took the lead and went on to win by one and a half lengths.

Odds-on favourite Santelli, who completed the Gandolfo double in the previous year, was seen to be running his last race over hurdles.

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1. The first group of respondents (10%) was made up of 100% females, 100% of whom were married. The mean age was 39.4 years, with a range of 25 to 55 years. The majority of respondents (80%) were employed, with 20% being unemployed. The majority of respondents (80%) were employed, with 20% being unemployed. The majority of respondents (80%) were employed, with 20% being unemployed.

By Michael Seely  
The fortunes of Harry Wragg and "Budgie" Moller have been woven together since 1942. In that

Year Wrags' rude Mr. Holler's Horama to several victories. He then became the foundation stone of the new dynasty. Stud. Wrags took out a licence to train in 1947 and since then he has continued to turn out a string of champions, winners for his patron, Full Derby and Macquarie won the English and Irish 1,000 Guineas, respectively. And now in 1958 Cherry Hinton is a short-priced favourite for the 1,000 Guineas and Oaks for this irresistible combination.

Cherry Hinton's position in the market has been assured since she sired the two best horses clear of Tarran Pipperel in the Argos Star Fillies Mile at Ascot last September. Cherry Hinton was the sire of the two best colts and dominates the picture in the fillies' class in much the same way as Ty Ty Best appears to the colts.

Originally, Cherry Chatter Hinton was to have had her Newmarket preliminary in the Ascot 1,000 Guineas on Friday, April 11. But because of the recent rain spell her reappearance has been postponed until the Fred Darling Stakes on Saturday, April 12. "Cherry Hinton is 50 to 60 over weight at present," Wrags said yesterday, "and there's no way we can get her ready to run at Ascot."

A the age of 76 the trainer, says a racing correspondent, is a big figure. Wrags' energy and remains undiminished. His stories of the apt are rich in comedy.

It is easy to sense that there is more stable confidence in Cherry Hinton's chance of winning the Triple Crown than in the Triple Crown winner, Nijinsky, the filly is out of Popkins, whose other two successful offspring, String Along and Bobbin's, have both won the Triple Crown, but obviously show improved form over middle distances a filly who possessed the same combination of speed and formidable over six furlongs as a two-year-old, should be capable of matching her contemporaries for pace over the Royal mile at Ascot.

It is impossible to tell whether a filly has trained on until she has her chance. But Cherry Hinton's chances are slightly better than Range, scope and quality—our name the qualities that go to make up the ideal thoroughbred, Cherry Hinton has them. She is currently the favourite to win the 1,000 Guineas at 4-1 for the Oaks with William Hill. These odds will vanish as quickly as snow in June if Cherry Hinton does not show her preparation satisfactorily.

Mr. Moller also has Amnarda, Countess and War Whoop. Amnarda, a low country mare, recovered from the injury that prevented her from running in the 1,000 Guineas Stakes. She will be tried (or stamined) for the seven furlong Nell Gwyn Stakes at the Craven meeting. If she passes this test she will join William Hill's Hinton in the line-up for the Guineas. Otherwise her attentions

as a two-year-old. She has already been well backed to win the Macquarie Free Handicap. But she is as forward in condition as many two stable companions and makes this race, War Whoop, son of Moulton, was lightly raced. She has been so well conditioned that it could be anything. The colt will make his first appearance in the £3,000 Furniture Factors Stakes at Newmarket on Saturday. He will do the last of the top 60 colts to enter that race.

It is early days to start talking about two-year-olds, but Amnarda and half brother by Riv. Riddell, the colt, are the only two-year-old little bull and looks sure to run. In the next box is Stechworth, handsome Nijinsky colt out of the 1,000 Guineas. He will be in high evidence by the stable.

Of the older horses both Flueller and Old Bill are already carrying a summer bloom on their coats. Flueller, who was the favourite yesterday at the four-day stage for the £10,000 Rosebery Stakes at Kempton Park on Saturday, Old Bill, who was the favourite in the Selfridges Handicap, run over one and a half miles on the same course on Tuesday.

Also in action on the same afternoon for the stable will be Wrags' granddaughter, Carolyn, Mercer, who will partner Countess in the £10,000 P.C.T. Cup at Nottingham. Countess' Fair was an unlucky loser at her first race in Newmarket. But the season and is one follow the

Lord Howard de Walden, the senior steward of the Jockey Club admitted yesterday that there was evidence to suggest corrupt associations between certain jockeys and bookmakers.

"Allegations that certain riders are corrupt and take bribes in exchange for payment are received from time to time both by the stewards and Racecourse Stewards Committee," he said.

"Naturally each case is examined carefully and although it is true evidence to suggest such associations exists, it is obviously cannot commit wide investigations are continuing," he said.

"I feel that it is important, however, to stress that very few

people appear to be involved and the vast majority of bookmakers are as anxious as the Jockey Club to stamp out malpractice of this kind."

Howard said that although any bookmaker who can produce evidence which could be used to help nail the offenders will be rewarded with a £1000 bonus, service by coming forward and giving information to Racecourse Stewards Committee.

Lord Howard's statement follows a plea by the Betting Offices Licensees Association, representing bookmakers, to the Jockey Club's views on allegations of corruption. The allegations first appeared in the *Western Morning News* and the Jockey Club regularly received

letters claiming the certain jockeys deliberately accepted money in exchange for payment.

Peter J. Smiles, director of racing, is quoted in the *Western Morning News* saying "It is going on and we have some well-known names on our files."

Howard said that although evidence together, we should be ready to take some positive action.

Smiles was unavailable for further comment yesterday, but Peter Smith, on behalf of the Jockey Club, said "Great to hear that."

He said: "We cannot accept the allegations implied unless they are founded on fact. At the present time, we have no evidence in fact to support such accusations."

## Champions' reward

Champion jockeys past and present gathered at the Savoy Hotel yesterday to receive awards from Wilkinson Sword, new sponsor of the Grand National.

Carson were presented with trophies for their services to racing.

**National Stud closed**

The National Stud is again being closed to the public this year as one of the measures to prevent the spread of contagious equine influenza.

**State of going** (continued)

Carson: good to soft. Klamath: good to soft. Taylor: good to soft. Tupperware: Taunton: soft. South:

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# Children's Easter Holiday Guide

## Easter suggestions

Of course children cherish traditional customs at traditional festivals. I suspect, though, that for many the most deeply satisfying aspect of a custom is its faithful repetition, year after year. A child remembers, and anticipates again, the crunching Christmas stockings above his toes, and maybe being allowed to eat chocolate at breakfast on Easter Sunday morning. These things are part of the secure pattern of the changing months and seasons. Perhaps they are even more important now that the freezer has robbed us of the annual joy of the first green peas, the first brussels sprouts. That is why I feel it is such a pity the bakers start selling hot cross buns weeks before Easter. Buy them only for Good Friday. Then they will really taste different, and special.

If your children are very young, you could start your own family Easter custom. I wouldn't embark on something elaborate, like painting eggs with exquisite patterns, for the chances are that next Easter you'll be too busy to do it again. Our custom, now 12 years old, is a simple treasure hunt. I buy Sainsbury's finest chocolate eggs (birds' egg size), and hide them in the garden, in subterfuge places as they grow older. Hoarders met summary justice years ago, and have ceased the practice.

**Good Friday**  
**Midday Pace Egg Play**  
You were beginning to guess what "Pace Egg" might mean, conjecturing whether it referred to some sort of egg and spoon race. Wrong. "Pace" is a corruption of "Pasch", the liturgical word for Easter. The Pace Egg Play is a traditional medieval-type mummers play, performed up and down the Calder Valley generations ago, and revived this century. It has a goody (St George) and several baddies (naturally all trounced). The play, done by Calder High School boys, takes about 20 minutes.

**Performance times:**  
Barnfield Estate 09.30.  
Mytholmroyd Centre 10.00.  
Holme St. Hedden Bridge 11.00.  
St. George's Square, Hebden Bridge 11.30.  
Midday bus terminus 14.00.  
Luddenden village 15.00.  
White Hart Fold, Todmorden 16.00.

## British Marbles Championship, Tinsley Green

This is an amateur contest, open to teams from anywhere, held in the car park of the Greyhound Hotel, Tinsley Green, Sussex. It starts at 10.00. There may be a Junior Championship too if there are enough entries.

## Easter Day

**Easter Parade, Battersea Park**  
Consider the possibility of standing in a large crowd for over an hour (to secure a reasonable place), and watching this two-mile long procession of bands, floats, clowns, vintage cars and pop groups. This year's special guests are 75 gorgeous Texan Wranglerettes, and the finale is the beautiful float of 10,000 fresh spring flowers from Jersey. Many children have only watched big processions on television. They have missed the give and take of the good-humoured crowd and police, the mounting expectation, and the full impact on their senses of the colourful spectacles and mingled sounds. But it is rather a long wait for under-fives. **Outer Carriageway, Battersea Park, London. Starts 15.00.**

## Easter Monday

**Egg Rolling, Avenham Park**  
This event at Preston, Lancs, has always attracted big local crowds, and the brightly coloured eggs rolling down the hill are a gay sight. Liverpool and Manchester families might now consider it as well—Preston is no distance on the motorways. The rolling starts in the early afternoon. Nowadays families take oranges too, to eat along with the dry hard-boiled eggs. Of course no one can resist rolling these as well.

**The Biddenden Dole**  
In the sixteenth century a pair of Siamese twin sisters, dying on the same day, left their property to the poor of Biddenden village in Kent. Nowadays the trustees distribute bread, cheese and tea to some deserving local people, but biscuits bearing the impress of the sisters are also given at the same time to all who apply, including "angelic" children.  
**Old Workhouse, Biddenden, Kent. 10.30-11.30.**

## Guide dogs

Blue Peter viewers will be familiar with the Guide Dog Training Centres. In 1974 the programme's "3B's" appeal (Buttons, Badges and Buckles) provided buildings or equipment for every training centre in Britain. Wokingham had a new puppy kennel block, Forfar and Bolton had extensions to their hospital blocks, Leamington had an isolation block, and Exeter had a new automatic drinking system. All this, and 11 guide dogs too.

Each centre has one or more visiting days, but it might be wise to book beforehand by letter or telephone, in case the centre is already fully booked with group visits that day.

**Bolton Training Centre, Lowndes St, Bolton, Lancs. tel**

**0204 40333. Controller S. Lambert. Open Mon and Tues afternoons.**  
**Exeter Training Centre, Cleeve House, Exwick, Devon, tel 0392 72967. Controller John Weeks. Open Wed afternoons (May-Sept).**  
**Forfar Training Centre, Dundee Road, Forfar, Scotland tel 0307 2311. Manager Bob Forrester. Open May-Sept by arrangement only.**  
**Leamington Training Centre, Edmondsdale Manor, Warwick Road, Leamington Spa, Warwick, tel 0926 24266. Controller S. Wright. Open Wed afternoons (March-Oct).**  
**Wokingham Training Centre, Barkham Road, Wokingham, Berks. Tel 0734 790090. Controller Brian Moody. Open Wed afternoons.**

## Trains

Many of the steam railways open up for the season at Easter. The Association of Railway Preservation Societies have a leaflet with details of all the railways, their rolling stock, facilities and opening times.

They do not charge for it. Send a.s.c. to A.R.P.S., Sheringham Station, Norfolk. The National Railway Museum at York puts on public film shows most mornings and afternoons. For details see Museums section.

## Mines

You can simulate quite a number of strange sensations and environments. You can produce the feeling an earthquake gives (on a funny floor at the Geological Museum). You can simulate the hot, humid climate of Malaysia (in a little room at the Commonwealth Institute), but unless you build a real mine (and the Beamish Open Air Museum in Co Durham are beginning to do just that), it is difficult to convey the weird sensations you experience when, like Persephone, you go down into the dank, dark underworld.

Some slate quarries in Wales can be visited. The most impressive is probably Llanfyllid at Blaenau Ffestiniog, where the underground tour is mostly made on a small train (an added delight). Here there are figures dressed in original miners' clothes, apparently working the machines. Many of the guides are ex-miners who talk out of their own memory, spontaneously, vividly. Easter might be a wise time to go April 14 for they sometimes have 2,000 people a day in August. You can also go inside the mountain at the Llywernog Silver-Lead Mine.

Best of all would be to see a mine being worked, when clanking, noisy, and blasting. The National Coal Board will only take down teenagers who are thinking of making a career as a mining engineer or a geologist. They cannot take school or family parties; each cage load filled with tourists would mean that a bit less coal came up that day.

With no luck in that direction, your best compensation might be to light a (coal) fire, and read aloud to older children that brilliant essay of Orwell's *Down the Mine*. It is found in *Inside the Whale*, and other essays, available in Penguin. Many technical details have changed since he wrote it, but the power of the prose is still strong.

**Llanfyllid Slate Quarries, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Gwynedd. LL41 3NR. Tel 076 581 306. Open 7 days, including bank holidays, 09.30-18.00 (last train 17.15). Admission 40p (children, 75p adults).**

**Llywernog Silver-Lead Mine, Porthcerry, Aberystwyth, Dyfed. Tel 097085 620. Open 7 days (including bank holidays), 11.00-16.30. Admission 30p (children), 50p (adults).**

## Books

### March 29-April 8

**Puffin Annual Exhibition** (of the Tim Brooke-Taylor (of the Goodies) is going to open the proceedings on March 29 at 10.00. Thereafter there will be some authors and artists to meet every day, a display of the first 1,000 Puffins, and naturally competitions. The theme this year is time travel, past, present and future; children will be able to visit the Space Dome of the Future, and enter the Enchanted Forest of the Past. There will be special days for drama, puppets, and Colony Holidays, an Oxfam Day on March 30, and a music day on March 31. Mail Galleries, The Mall, London SW1Y 5BD. Tel 01-930 6844, 10.00-17.00 each day except Sun. Admission 25p (15p for Puffin Club members); under 4's free.

**Federation of Children's Book Groups**  
**Selected activities up and down the country:**  
**Chesham:** April 5, scavenger hunt and stories. Village Hall, Chesham, Bucks. 10.00-12.00. All ages (under 8's accompanied).  
**Eastbourne:** April 15, "Read a Book and See a Film". Weston Wood films, drama. Motcombe School, Milton Road, Eastbourne. 10.30-12.30. Under 8's. Edgware: April 4, "Read in Review". Quizzes. Public Library, Edgware, Middlesex. 18.00-19.30. All ages.

**Goldford:** April 6, Professor Bransford. Chinese Magic Show. Guildford: April 14, "Read in Review". Quizzes. Public Library, Guildford. 15.00-17.00. All ages. Admission 20p.  
**Lewes:** April 1, Weston Woods Film Show. Riverside Centre, Lewes. 14.30. Under 10's.  
**Radcliffe-on-Trent:** March 27, Story caravan. The Leas, Radcliffe-on-Trent. April 1, party and story caravan decorated by John Burningham. Church Hall, Radcliffe. 15.00-17.00. Ages 4-6. Tickets 40p.

**Radlett:** April 8, Book Swap. United Reformed Church Hall, Watling Street, Radlett, Hertfordshire. 10.00-12.00. All ages.  
**Richmansworth:** April 5, Big

**Chief I-Spy.** Public Library, Richmansworth. 14.00. See over.  
**Sevenoaks:** April 4, Peter R. St. Luke's Hall, East Road, Sevenoaks. 14.30-16.40. See over.  
**Wokingham:** April 4, Rev. Audrey (Hawley books). Cops Library, Wokingham. 14.00.  
**Woodstock:** April 6, film and handicrafts on theme "Air". Community Centre, Woodstock. 10.00-12.00. Ages 3-12.  
**Worthington:** March 25, eggstravaganza and pet show. Scout Hut, Worthington. 10.30-12.30. Quizzes to Mrs B. Jones. Chesham. 23.

### April 5, 6 & 7

**Lion and Unicorn Club Book Fair**  
The Lion and Unicorn Book Fair in Richmond have indicated fair, which will have many publishers' stalls, story-telling sessions, competitions, visits from well-known authors who will autograph. Castle Hotel, White Avenue, Richmond. Sun 10.00-17.30 (April 5 & 6), 15.00 (April 7).

### April 17-28

**Twenty-five Years of Children's Books**  
This is the National League exhibition of children's fiction chosen by John Townsend of *The Guardian* which kicked off at the League HQ at Christmas. Sherbrooke Teachers' College, Rosalind Road, Fulham, London, SW6.

### April 17-22

**Children's Books of the Exhibition**  
Another Book League exhibition on tour. About children's books are put each year. Over 300 of the ones were selected by the League HQ at Christmas. Sherbrooke Teachers' College, Rosalind Road, Fulham, London, SW6.

## Lasers

The applications of lasers are continuing to fascinate children, tending, scientists, pop-fans, electronic wizards and any who love to see new dimensions of shape, movement and colour. The two shows in London at the moment complement each other beautifully.

**Light Fantastic, Mark II**  
The Royal Academy has never before staged two exhibitions on the same subject twice in one year, such is the insatiable demand to see more about holography—the recording of three-dimensional light images with lasers on to emulsified plates, and their projection into space. New developments since "Light Fantastic Mark I" include the ability to freeze movement in a hologram, very deep images which appear to go back 20ft into the wall, and bigger "real" images, seeming to be in front of the plate, like Macbeth's dagger. The Star Wars robots delight smaller kids.

**Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London. W1V 0AB. Tel 01-734 9052. Until March 27 only (closed Good Friday). 10.00-18.00 daily (until 20.00 Thurs). Admission 50p (children & students), £1 (adults).**

**Lasermix**  
This will suit children's delight in strong vibrations. Eyes and ears are assailed far more in than by the good old No. 1 fireworks. Laser beam diffused and refracted, dancing, shooting and on to the dome of the planetarium, so that some look like a celestial sign and others have echoes, but deeper, deeper, deeper. Lasermix manipulates the with knobs on a console with the taped music. The two programmes: "Lasermix" and "Lasermix 2". "Lasermix" has a mix of music—classical and modern—and is shown each Fri & Sat.

**London Planetarium, bone Rd, London, NW Tel 01-484 2242. Performances, 19.00, 19.15, 19.30, 19.45. Admission: 11/5 (16+), can see the 17.15 & 18.15.**

## Windmills

For nearly two years there has been a Windmill Museum in the first floor of the Wimbledon Windmill. This year it will be open from the Easter weekend (not Good Friday), and thereafter every summer Saturday and Sunday afternoon. The windmill at Brixton has been closed for repairs, but is open again. It is extraordinary that a mill has survived so near the centre of London. The door is kept locked, so you need to find a park keeper to unlock it for you.

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings is in process of compiling a list of all the windmills with their opening hours. It is not completed yet, but if you phone them (01-405 2646), they will suggest windmills in your area (unless you live in the Cairngorms or the Cotswolds). They also know which are working mills. A child will long remember the clanking of the cogs, and the creaking of the sails as the wind drives them round.

One busy mill is the Dansey Green Windmill, now at the Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Bromsgrove.

**Wimbledon Windmill**  
Museum, Windmill Road, Wimbledon, Surrey. Tel: 01-878 7555. Open Saturdays and Sundays, 14.00-17.00. Admission 5p (children), 10p (adults).

**Brixton Windmill, Blenheim Gardens, off Brixton Hill, London, SW2. Open 7 days, 09.00-17.00. Admission 5p (includes leaflet).**

**Dansey Green Windmill, Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Stoke Heath, Bromsgrove, B60 4JR. Tel 075 93 3163. 10.30-17.30 each day. Admission 30p (children, students), 60p (adults).**

## Skateboard

Well over a million board sold at Christmas as skateboarders are beginning to come out like summer snow that the surfaces damp and no longer fit. A few purpose-built have been built over the first major one off City in Southwark was built at Thurston (aerodrome), west of London (access from A303). A leisure centre at W Park near Kettering has a skatepark to its other side. Newbury children skate under cover of a Street. In Cornwall the small indoor skate Wadebridge and an out at Watergate Bay. The indoor park, with a ramp made inside an old. Putney there is Wheelie park (near East Putney station), and at Old R. Market an indoor park. Rolling Thunder is open on March 23. It is also temporary skating like empty swimming and those just discovered, like the Sea in London, or a few Coast promenades.

Enthusiasm is spreading to the north. Places in the holiday might be a waste of a drive a long distance. Some are quite expensive. Wherever you live, Skateboard Association gladly give advice or telephone. In London at the H.Q. of the Council (tel 01-589 341 have a Liverpool man northerners to ring: 8039).

## Further ideas

The Redcliffe Press, Bristol, are producing a series of paperback guidebooks for children. So far there is *Children's Bath* (60p), *Bournemouth & Poole* (65p), *Brighton* (60p), *London & Manchester* (95p). They do vary. Some are compiled by a group of people, who have dug out the details; the result is uneven writing but useful go-bets. Others are by a single author. The Manchester book has a particularly good chapter on going round factories. Before a family holiday, especially a visit to a museum, or even a book home-work, and even take notes. They can then plan the days wisely, and are less likely to miss attractive details than reading about afterwards.

Faber do a hardback called *Discovering Britain* signed for children, but useful for parents. There are four so far: *East England* (22.5), *Anglia*, *Yorkshire* and *Wales* (22.5). *Wales* seems to have much of the best, but *East Anglia* is beautifully written, and places come alive with yellow brief quotations snippets of social history.

## London museums

**Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood**, Cambridge Heath Rd, London, E2 9PA. Tel 01-980 2415. Various activities: March 28, April 4, Paper Dolls; March 29, 30, Dolls' Houses—look at the museum's houses, and help make a big one; April 3, Mending Toys; April 5, 6, Gardens, Embroidered Gardens, Rock Gardens. Also House Gardens—ideas for making your own. 14.30 each day. Admission free.

**Commonwealth Institute**, Kensington High St, London, W8 6NQ. Tel 01-602 3252/106. March 25-April 30 "The Art of Butterfly". An exhibition examines the butterfly in scientific and artistic terms. There will be a film cage with live Commonwealth butterflies. Weekdays 10.00-17.30. Sun 14.30-18.00. Admission 50p (children and students), 50p (adults). The Institute also has free film shows as follows: Mon-Fri, 12.15, 13.15, 15.00. Sat and Bank Holidays, 14.45, 15.30, 16.25, Sun, 15.00, 15.50, 16.40 (times approx).

**Geffrey Museum, Kingsland Rd, London E2 8EA. Tel 01-739 8368. March 28-April 8 (not April 3), "Things That Go Bump in the Night"—a study of the impact that scientific discoveries had on folk beliefs and customs, especially those concerned with darkness. Also March 31, Magic Show. 14.30. Opportunities for mask-making, painting, print-making, cookery and claywork (telephone to find out what is on which day). Over seven unless accompanied. Admission free.**

**Horniman Museum, London Rd, Forest Hill, London SE23 3PQ. Tel 01-699 1872. March 23, "Decorating Easter Eggs". Two half-day workshops, 10.30-12.30 for juniors; 14.00-16.00 for seniors. Tickets 5p from Education Dept in advance (limited places).**

**Imperial War Museum, Lambeth Rd, London SE1 6BZ. Tel 01-735 8922. Public film shows: March 25, 26, *World War II British Newsreels*, April 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, "Wind in the Wires" (World War I Aircraft) and "A Killing of Eagles" (World War II Aircraft), 15.00 each day. Admission free. There are sometimes films on weekdays in the school holidays also.**

**National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2N 5DN. Tel 01-839 3321/295. Now until April 21, "Mad Hats"—an Easter quiz. Sheets available at the Orange St entrance to the Gallery. Ages 8-13. Also a "Hats" drawing competition. Bring a pencil. Admission free.**

**National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF. Tel 01-858 4422. March 23, 28, films on whales: "The Sea" and "Search for the Bowhead Whale"; April 4, 6, "Moby Dick". All at the Runciman Lecture Theatre (East Wing), 14.30. Limited places; no booking. Admission free. March 28, 29, 30, 31, "The Message of Star Light". Planetarium Easter lectures. At the Planetarium (South Building, Old Royal Observatory). 15.00 each day. Admission 5p (children), 15p (adults). Limited places; no booking.**

**National Portrait Gallery, St Martin's Place, London, WC2N 5AE. Tel 01-930 8511/53. March 29, 30, "Find a Family". Choose your ideal family from famous people. Invent a group that includes yourself. 10.15-13.00 each day. Bring a soft pencil, a mirror, and scissors. Ages 8 and over. Admission free.**

**Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD. Tel 01-589 5323. Gallery tours illustrated lectures at 15.00 every day except Sunday and Good Friday, suitable for all except very young children. Most Saturdays there is a lecture at 11.00 also.**

**Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DD. Tel 01-589 3456/588. March 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, Star-Ships, Death Rays and Little Green Men. Also Easter lecture. Large theatre 15.00 each day. Tickets required (apply to Publications Section, Science Museum). Admission free.**

There are also films for children in the Small Theatre at 12.30 every day except Sundays. No tickets required. Admission free.

**Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW8 4RT. Tel 01-828 1212/202. March 28-April 2, "A Black Film in the Making". An Easter holiday demonstration of film-making by Sheila Graber, to link with the Blake exhibition, but specifically to stimulate the interest of children. March 28-April 2, Lord Clark's film on William Blake. Lecture Theatre, 12.00 and 16.00 each day.**

The Tate now does guided tours. Tours of the British Collection Monday-Friday (including Easter Monday) 11.00 and 14.00; Turner Collection tours 12.00 and 15.00. Admission free. The Gallery is closed on Good Friday.

**Tower of London, London EC3N 4AB. Tel 01-709 0765/247. March 25-April 2. Easter holiday competition. Children must fill in quiz sheets, and do a picture or a piece of writing. Prize Details from Education Office. (Tel no above).**

There are two new galleries in the Tower, which is now celebrating its 900th year. The History Gallery (opening today) shows the history of the Tower in 24 panels, bringing out its architectural development in relation to its many different uses over the centuries. There is also a newly-opened gallery of oriental armour. The elephant armour almost puts Henry VIII's in the shade.

## Bedford

**Cecil Higgins Art Gallery, Castle Close, Bedford. Tel: 0234 211222. April 5 & 6. Learn more about the season of spring and traditional Easter customs. 11.00-12.30. Ages six and over. Admission free. April 7, "Painting on Different Materials"—Paper, Canvas, Ceramics, Glass and Wood—a talk for young people. 11.00. Ages 13 and over.**

## Birmingham

**Birmingham Museums & Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham B3 3DH. Tel 025-235 3890. Events not requiring tickets include demonstrations of macramé, origami and silk screen printing, a lecture on the Birmingham Nature Centre's work, and films on South America. Tickets are required for a concert or "The Age of Gold" on April 7, a two-day course on the Pre-Raphaelites, a course at Blakesley Hall, Yardley, studying life in a Tudor Merchant's house, and short courses on paintings, Elizabethan food, fossils, Peruvian design and civilian life in the Second World War. Differing times and age-groups. Details and booking forms from Mrs Meredith, Museum Education Dept. No telephone bookings.**

## Bradford

**Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford. Tel 0174 49113. March 29, 30, 31, Signs and Symbols—looking at writing in pictures, in the gallery and in the urban landscape, then using them in paintings and sculpture. 14.00-16.00. Ages 8 and over. Old clothes. Booking forms from Anthony Rae, Cartwright Hall.**

## Derby

**Derby Industrial Museum, off St. Derby Tel (City Museums) 0332 31111/793. March 30, April 5, Heraldic Monsters & Animals; March 31, What is it? (unusual museum objects); April 4 & 6, Geologists for Beginners (bring 1 or 2 stones); April 5, Animal Farm (all-day activity).**

## Edinburgh

**Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers St, Edinburgh EH1 1JF. Tel 031-225 7534. Film programmes: now until March 29, films on S American wildlife, the Château of Chambord and birds on a Scottish island; March 27-31, films on Twentieth Motor Cars and the Argentine Pampas; 14.00 & 15.30 each day. No tickets. Gallery talks: March 24, Living Fossils; March 27, Australian Animals; March 29, Fossil Giants; March 31, Elizabethan and Jacobean Silver. 14.30 each day. Admission free. Also free quiz books (bring pencils or crayons).**

The exhibition "Animals in Art" is open until March 24. Mon-Sat 10.00-17.00, Sun 14.00-17.00. Admission free.

## Glasgow

**Art Gallery & Museum, Kelvin Grove, Glasgow G3 8AG. Tel 041 334 1131. March 24-April 3, crossword competition. Also competitions at People's Palace, Glasgow Green, & Museum of Transport. Ages 6 & over. Bring coloured pencils. Admission free.**

**Haggs Castle, 100 St Andrews Drive, Glasgow G41 4RB. Tel 041 427 2725. Various activities: March 24, Easter bonnets (bring tissue paper, ribbons etc); March 25, Pace Eggs (bring a hard-boiled egg); March 25, films for Haggs drama group; March 27, Printing Pictures (bring a large potato); March 28, 29, rushwork; March 28, 29, batik (you must come both days); March 30, postcards (bring 1 or 2 stones); April 5, Animal Farm (all-day activity).**

any rocks or fossils for identification; April 7, The Roman Soldier; examine armour & equipment, do Roman drill and make full-sized Roman standards. 14.00-16.00 each day. Ages 8 & over. Tickets required. Apply to City Museums & Art Gallery.

for city children—bring picnic, waterproof, wellies, etc. No tickets. Demonstration by taxidermists; April 3, watch a potter, and try potting. Varying times and age-groups. Tickets (one only per child) from Haggs.

## Keighley

**Cliffe Castle, Spring Gardens Lane, Keighley. Tel 05352 64184. March 29, 30, 31, making puppets, and helping with script, costumes and theatre for a performance. 10.00-16.00. Ages 8 and over. Booking forms from Graham Wilkinson, Cliffe Castle.**

## Liverpool

**Merseyside County Museum, William Brown St, Liverpool L3 8EN. Tel 051-207 0001. March 30, 31, a two-day introduction to industrial archaeology. Lectures & illustrated talks, mostly using local examples, and reference to photographic & surveying techniques, archives, documents. March 23, April 4, "The Hidden & Moving Image". One-day workshops on cameras & photography, studying early photographic equipment and optical toys. Practical work also. 09.30-15.30. Bring picnic & 20p. Ages 9-14. April 5, 6, two half-day workshops on geology. Specimens will be studied. Practical work will include plaster casts of fossils, & discussion of their preservation. 14.00-16.00. Ages 9-14. Bring 10p. Enquiries to the Museum's Education Dept.**

## Manchester

**Manchester Museum, Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PL. Tel 061-275 2882. March 27, 28, 29, RSPB film about birds. 10.15-11.15. "Winged Aristocrats"—birds of prey. 14.00. "When the Curlew Calls"; 15.00. "Big Bird"—a hero's story. April 3-7, Touch and Draw. Observe a real museum object, and then work from them.**

**09.30-12.00, 14.00-15.30 each day. For adults & children. No tickets. For adults & children. No tickets. For adults & children. No tickets.**

**Platt Hall Gallery of English Costume, 11, Wilmslow Rd, Rusholme, Manchester M14 5LL. Tel (Education Service) 061 236 9283. March 29, 30, "Fun and Games at Platt Hall"—drawings, collages, mobiles, games, quizzes and dressing-up. 10.00-12.30. Ages 12-14. Bring colouring materials. To book ring Mr Williams at the Athenaeum Education Service (see above).**

**Sheffield**  
**Bishop's House, Norton Lees Lane, Sheffield 8. Tel (City Museum) 0742 27226. March 29, 30, colour an animal mask, and be an animal in the park, while the Bishop's House is open. Also film "Noah" from the Chester Mystery Cycle. Unlimited places if weather fine. "Animal" tickets 5p beforehand.**

**Mappin Art Gallery, Weston Park, Sheffield 10. Tel (Hay's Gallery) 0742 734789. March 25, "Easter Eggstravaganza". Bring your own hard-boiled eggs and paint them, either in the E. European tradition, or in psychedelic styles. March 30, 31, Spinning a Yarn. March 31, Spinning a Yarn. March 31, Spinning a Yarn. March 31, Spinning a Yarn.**

**York**  
**National Railway Museum, Leeman Rd, York YO2 4XJ. Tel 0904 21261/27. Today and March 28, 30, April 4, 5, film shows about railways. 11.00 and 15.00; March 23, film show, 11.00; March 29, film show 15.00. Children's paintings, collages, models or embroidery displayed, using something in the museum as a subject. Ages 5-16.**

**Heavy horses**  
The really big event is the National Shire Horse Centenary Show at Peterborough, which the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are due to attend today.

On Easter Monday there is the usual London Harness Horse Parade in Regent's Park, where commercial and private horses and ponies will be judged.

There are also Heavy Horse Driving Trials on April 16 and 17 at Beamish Open Air Museum, Co Durham. Both private driving vehicles and tradesmen's turnouts will be present, and there will be heavy horse displays.

**National Shire Horse Centenary Show, East of England Showground, Peterborough. Tel (sec) 0733 234451. Today. London Harness Horse Parade, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, NW1. Tel (Miss D. Forwood) 01-235 6431. March 27, 09.45-12.00. Admission free to spectators.**



# Tower of London



photographs: Brian Harris

atives are dangerous parts of speech for journalists. encourage extravagance, and invite cantankerous cordence. However, it is difficult to resist describing tower of London as the most historic building in England, the world. There is no controversy in saying that it far more visitors than any other building in the Kingdom.

with a curtain wall and bastion towers, which at the time was as significant a strategic advance as the tank. Edward I added the outer wall, towers and moat, so completing the concentric fortifications according to the latest strategy of his day. They cover no fewer than 18 acres.

But the Tower has always been much more than a fortress. It is still technically a royal palace, though the main palace buildings south of the White Tower were finally destroyed by Cromwell. Because of its inaccessibility, the Tower tended to be most used as a palace by uneasy kings in turbulent periods. Until the seventeenth century the symbolic custom survived of the monarch lodging in the Tower until his coronation, and riding from there in procession through the City to Westminster Abbey: the man who held the Tower held the master key to the kingdom, and was therefore competent to be crowned.

In addition to fortress and palace, from time immemorial the Tower has been the repository of the Crown Jewels and the national collections of arms and armour. It is one of the great museums of the world, possibly rivalled by only the Prado and Vienna. During its long history it has also served as the Royal Treasury, the Mint (its crucibles have just been discovered during the rehabilitation of Legge's Mount), the law courts, the Royal

Observatory, and the Public Record Office, whose rolls were stored higgledy-piggledy in the glorious royal chapel of St John on the upper two storeys of the White Tower until the nineteenth century.

It was the headquarters of the Board of Ordnance until the last century: the Victorians built a miniature railway to carry the powder from the White Tower to the wharf. It was already a tourist attraction when John Stow published his *Survey of London* in 1598. It was the national menagerie for wild beasts at least from the time of Henry III until the Prince Regent allowed the London Zoological Society to set up its cages in Regent's Park. Where else do you suppose that the Lion Tower, by which you enter the Tower, got its name? The Tower is still a village in which more than 200 people live. The Ceremony of the Keys still takes place every night when the gates are locked. To get into the Tower after midnight you will need to know the password, which changes every day.

For centuries the Tower has been the state prison; and it is in this role that it lingers in the popular memory, as the grim place into which many entered, but few came out except head first. When he was Constable, the first Duke of Wellington refused to let the Board of Ordnance take over the Bloody Tower on two significant grounds. He said it was safest to keep state prisoners in the most secure place in the kingdom, under the royal hierarchy of Constable, Resident Governor, and Lieutenant; and it had one of the few drawbridges still working. Here is another grand paradox of the Tower: because it has been so continuously occupied and changed, there is not a single room in our great state prison that can be positively identified as a dungeon.

It is gratifying that there is even a paradox about this year's 900th anniversary. We are not in fact certain that the White Tower was started in 1078, though it was about then. Immediately after his Conquest, William built a temporary wooden fortress on the site of the Tower, and prudently removed to Barking away from the "vast and fierce" and anti-Norman population of London until it was ready.

To hold London permanently he needed a stone fortress, like those of the Carolingian emperors. Accordingly about 1078 he appointed Gundulph, a monk of Bec in Normandy, to build him a Great Tower or Keep of London. Norman monks were the master architects in stone, because of their practice with cathedrals and churches.

Work was still going on in 1097, under William Rufus. Gundulph imported frequent shipments of his favourite pale stone from the quarries of Caen. It was called the White Tower perhaps because of its earliest days there was an inappropriate tradition of whitewashing the bloodstained place inside and outside.

The year 1078 is a better guess for the start of the White Tower than any other year. Accordingly the Department of the Environment has removed the notice outside it, "Begun circa 1080", on the disingenuous ground that the public might not understand from the "vast and fierce" circle. And we are about to

celebrate our greatest ancient monument, stately home, and anything else you care to mention.

The principal new work for the anniversary is the history gallery and interpretation centre buried in the original moat, mercifully inconspicuous below ground. This will explain the long history of the Tower with panels, pictures, and models for the three million visitors a year, who trample through at 20,000 a day in the high season. The Master of the Armouries has opened a new oriental gallery for the anniversary. This is a characteristically brilliant display of unique pieces, ranging from the complete Japanese armours that the Shogun gave to James I to the comprehensively documented arms and armour of the East India Company.

We are in the middle of a long-term policy of opening up and conserving more of the Tower. Much has already been done. For example, all the towers are now open to the public. Much work of noble note remains to be done.

Philip Howard

## The Normans didn't stop at the Tower of London. Why should you?

Discover Norman Britain on the Tower's 900th Anniversary

There's a lot more to the Norman Conquest than the Tower of London, 1078 and all that.

When the Normans conquered Britain they started a whole new era in Britain's history. They changed the way the British lived by introducing European culture, law and government, and starting the system which resulted in the "Mother of Parliaments."

They changed the shape of Britain's countryside with their fortifications and love of woods and hunting - William the Conqueror started the New Forest.

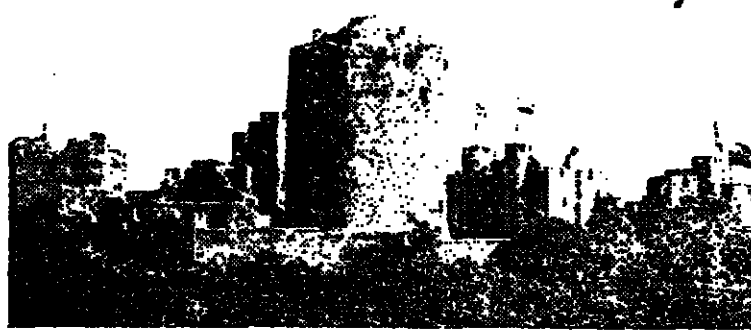
But above all, they built. They erected castles, cathedrals and fortresses like the Tower of London. Now you can retrace the steps of the Norman Conquerors and discover the magnificent buildings they left behind them. Just follow the Trails.

### Norman Britain

There are a series of carefully selected routes which take you through many of the loveliest parts of Britain on the way to some of the nation's oldest buildings.

Follow the steps of the Conqueror and see Pevensey where William landed, Hastings, and Battle, scene of the famous 1066 confrontation. Then go on to Dover and Canterbury with its magnificent cathedral. Finish in Rochester whose castle and cathedral were both designed by Gundulph, architect of the Tower of London.

But don't stop in the south-east. The Normans conquered most of Britain and left a huge heritage behind them as you can see from the map opposite. And there are Trails to take you everywhere the Normans went.



Pembroke Castle

### How to follow the Normans

To make it easier for you the Tourist Boards have produced a number of publications which tell you all about Norman Britain - what to see and how to see it. For instance 'Discover Norman Britain' (30p, or 45p post free) details the nine Norman Heritage Trails. And if you've less time to spare the pamphlets 'A Day Out of London' and 'Day Trips from London by Train' give you all the information you need to make the most of your time.

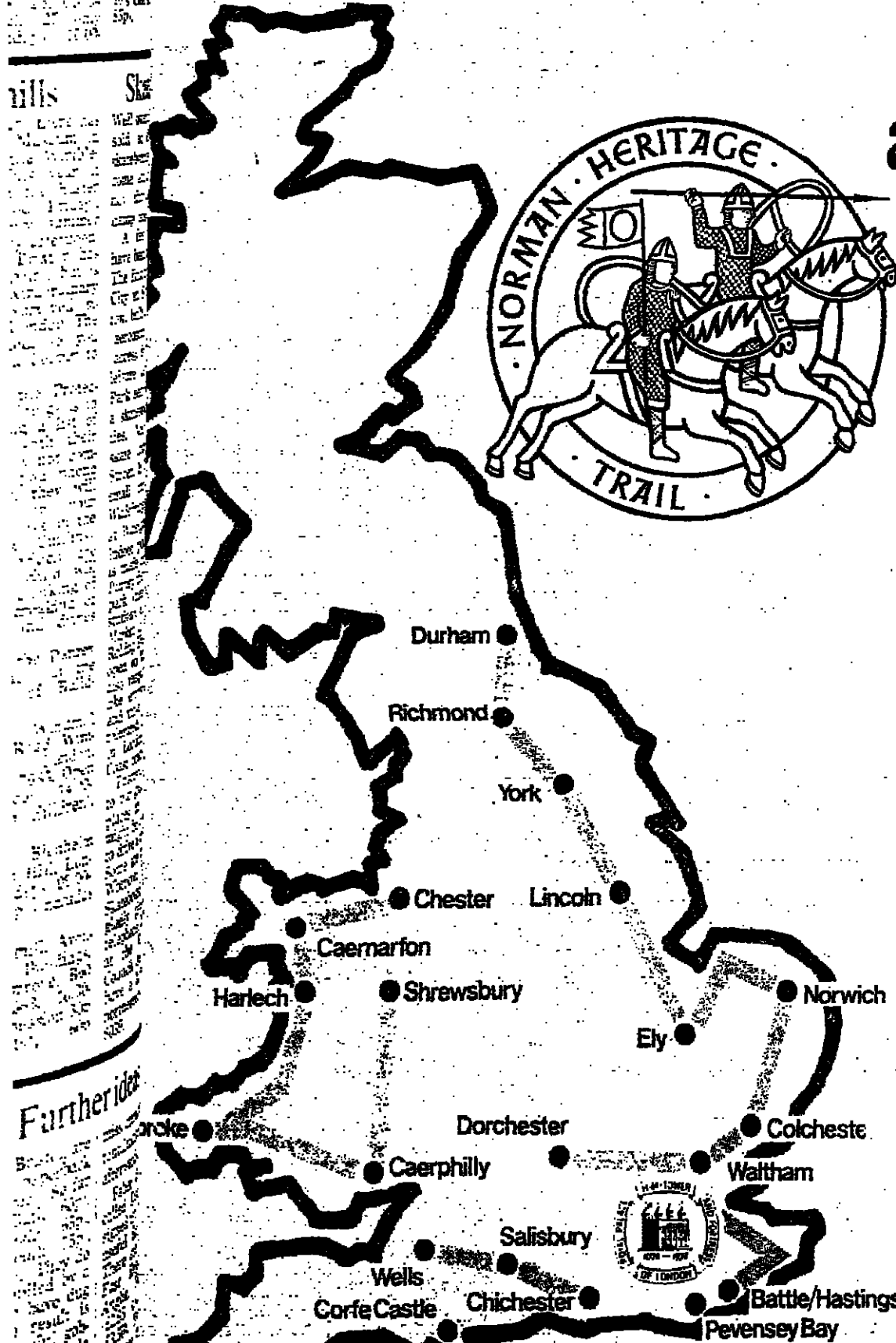
Whether you go by car or public transport it's easy to travel in Britain. And when you want to stay overnight the Tourist Boards have information on anything from Bed and Breakfast to luxury hotels. Illustrated is the BTA Guide to Hotels and Restaurants in Britain (Price £2).

It's easy to get information about the Trails, accommodation and travel from over 500 Information Centres around Britain or from the addresses below.

And if you want to know more about the Tower of London itself, contact the London Tourist Board.

- London Tourist Board, 26 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU.
- English Tourist Board, 4 Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1W 0DU.
- Wales Tourist Board, Welcome House, Llandaff, Cardiff CF3 2Z.
- Scottish Tourist Board, 23 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh EH4 3EU.
- British Tourist Authority, Queen's House, 64 St. James's Street, London SW1A 1NF.
- BTAA, 680 Fifth Avenue, New York NY 10019. (In New York ask for 'Britain - a land to explore').

**BRITAIN**









# Jewels almost beyond price

by A. V. B. Norman

...the crown made by the jewellers of the Tower of London... the jewels are almost beyond price... the jewels are almost beyond price... the jewels are almost beyond price...

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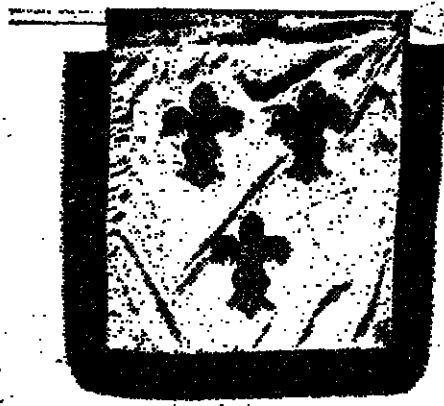
# Now thrive the armouries — in science and art

Selfridges



The other face of Henry VIII, not so well known as the Holbein portrait, is his armour, made at Greenwich and now in the Tower Armouries.

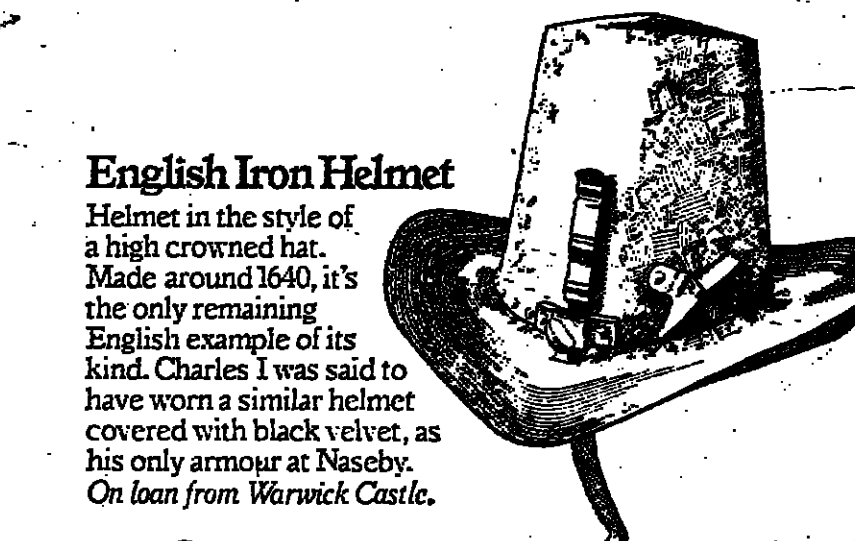
# All this summer you'll see a lot of Britain's heritage just 100 feet above Oxford Street.



Quilt Rent Standard

A special standard which is traditionally presented to the English Monarch, every year on August 13th. That's the anniversary of the Battle of Blenheim, which took place in 1704.

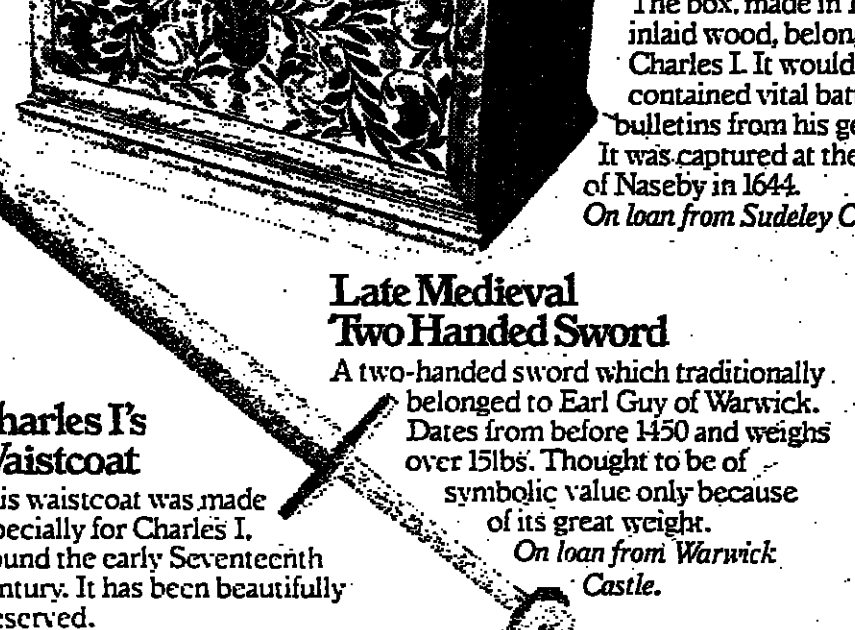
On loan from Blenheim Palace.



English Iron Helmet

Helmet in the style of a high crowned hat. Made around 1640, it's the only remaining English example of its kind. Charles I was said to have worn a similar helmet covered with black velvet, as his only armour at Naseby.

On loan from Warwick Castle.



Late Medieval Two Handed Sword

A two-handed sword which traditionally belonged to Earl Guy of Warwick. Dates from before 1450 and weighs over 15lbs. Thought to be of symbolic value only because of its great weight.

On loan from Warwick Castle.



16th Century Suit of Armour

A complete suit of German fluted armour, dating from the mid-Sixteenth Century. It's still in excellent condition. This type is known as 'Maximilian' armour.

On loan from Warwick Castle.

All in all, we think you'll find the 'Noble Heritage' exhibition well worth seeing. So be sure to plan a visit.

It opens on May 16th and continues until the beginning of September.



Selfridges

Oxford Street, London W1A 1AB. 01 629 1234.

# A British compromise which works

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# Army Benevolent Fund

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# The Norman Invasion

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AN EXHIBITION LINKING HISTORIC HOUSES WITH THE TOWER OF LONDON. FROM MAY 16TH TILL SEPT 9TH



# ...And some have greatness thrust upon them

Yesterday I discussed some of the curious circumstances surrounding a publishing project, by the Franklin Library, which consists of putting out what they call "The Greatest Books of the 20th Century" in 50 volumes, at a cost of £1,250, without listing the 50 books in their advertisement and also without revealing in it that the titles and authors are "subject to alteration".

But that was the business side of things. Today, I want to concentrate on the contents of this venture. And I am moved to do so not only by the general absurdity of a claim that any 50 books are "The Greatest Books of the 20th Century" (for which, after all, a certain amount of advertiser's licence can be allowed—presumably nobody is daft enough to believe that the assertion has any generally acknowledged meaning, but by the words with which the text of the advertisement proper begins, I am not sure, but I think it possible that they are the most amazing words I have ever read in my life, and they run thus:

*The 20th century has produced more great books than all the previous centuries combined.*

Consider. They do not claim that the twentieth century has

produced more books than all previous centuries, or even (which would be ludicrous enough) that it has produced more great books than any one previous century. The claim is that it has produced more great books than all the previous centuries, or even that it doesn't. It will be thrown instantly into the wastepaper basket, accompanied by a powerful invocation of demons against the writers, more great books were written than in all the centuries from Homer to Tolstoy combined.

When I say "the clowns", the particular entertainers I have in mind are—at least I hope they are—the commercial sponsors of the project, who are, I take it, responsible for the text of the advertisement. I distinguish those responsible in this manner because there is also, in the advertisement, a reference to a distinguished panel of scholars, authors and literary historians who have given "assistance" in selecting the books for the series, and I cannot believe that such genuinely eminent experts as Professor Frank Kermode, Professor Richard Ellmann and Mr Malcolm Cowley would lend themselves to such a claim, or could even

have known of it when they gave their assistance. (Nor, incidentally, is the nature of that assistance made at all clear in the advertisement.)

I have to resist the temptation to spend a couple of pages listing a selection from the great books of previous centuries and setting the claim of the sponsors of the Franklin Library against it; I should think that there were more great books published in Athens in the fifth century BC than all over the world in the present century; there were probably more great novels alone published in the nineteenth century AD than in all categories put together in the twentieth; the eighteenth century in France must have topped our 78 years with ease.

But let us leave the comparative method and turn to an analysis of "The Greatest Books of the 20th Century"—for these, after all, can be what they are claimed to be even if they cannot compare on mass with the works of previous ages. Let us see just what the list contains.

Some would be included by almost any well-read person as among the outstanding works of the century, though the reasons given for their inclusion would differ widely. But no one could really deny a place on such a list to *The Magic*

*Mountain*, the *Collected Poems* of Eliot, *Ulysses*, *Doctor Zhivago*, the plays of Chekhov (though the ones selected—the list merely says there are four they have chosen), or *Swann's Way*, presumably representing the whole of Proust's epic.

Then there are books which, though they may not have been masterpieces in themselves, either had an influence, or summed up a life or achievement, that makes them essential. Such a book is *The Trial*; another is *Selected Writings* of Freud, though the failure to mention any work by him which is to be included makes it impossible to be sure. There is also a book that I suppose is included because it relates something considered worthy of record: Churchill's *The Finest Hour*. And there are some which the author was of sufficient stature to be included, and it did not much matter which book was chosen to represent him: Henry James is in with *The Ambassadors*, Forster with *A Passage to India*. (I must

point out, incidentally, before going any further, that the advertisement is misleading in another respect. It says that the series will include "Biographies and autobiographies that reflect the fascinating lives of great international figures". There is no book in the list that is entered as either biography or autobiography, though there are two such works—Carl Sandburg's *Abraham Lincoln*, and *The Education of Henry Adams*; but that makes only one of each, whereas the advertisement promises both categories in the plural.)

But the omissions (there is no Hesse, a fact which in itself makes the whole project absurd) are less astonishing than some of the inclusions. What on earth are Thornton Wilder's plays doing in a series called "The Greatest Books of the 20th Century"? Wilder was a skilful, honest and very entertaining writer, but essentially of the second rank, as was Gide (who is in with *The Cornetier*). Steinbeck (*The Grapes of Wrath*, which isn't even his best book), and Erich Maria Remarque, who wasn't even in the second rank, and gets in with *All Quiet on the Western Front*, which is little more than very superior pulp-fiction and I suspect was included for no better reason than that everybody knows the title.

As for Robert Penn Warren's *All the King's Men*, it is nothing more than a thriller disguised as political history, while Lofsky, though an interesting novel, is not among its author's six best, and *Gone With the Wind* is neither more nor less than trash.

Perhaps Evelyn Waugh deserves inclusion: though if so it is certainly not for *Decline and Fall*; what Malraux is doing with *Man's Fate* under the heading that this series bears is hard to see; to see why Solzhenitsyn is included is not just hard but impossible.

I suppose it takes things no further for me to say that I have better things to spend £1,250 on than this doubtful enterprise, because it is presumably aimed at those who don't have anything better to spend their money on, and it is not for me to say that my views on the list should persuade them to put their money back in their pockets. Nor do I in fact say that, or feel it. But anyone contemplating such a huge outlay ought to have the fullest possible information about what they are getting for it, and since the publishers are not clearly making it easy for them to get that information, I thought I would send a couple of columns on providing it.

© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1978.

## Lords reform: the next step?

A letter of thanks to Lord Home

Dear Lord Home,

After many months' work, your committee on the House of Lords has reported. As the junior member of your distinguished team, I must offer my thanks for your crisp and witty chairmanship under which it was a pleasure to sit.

I was delighted, if surprised, when we all agreed that the status quo was no longer a real option. The apparent security of the lordly ceremonial and the red benches are no genuine reassurance, because at the moment when an effective Upper House becomes more and more necessary, the chances of an untrammelled left-wing government making even the House of Lords into the Lord's existing powers are slowly increasing. No. However charming and enticing the atmosphere of the present House may be, as all 11 of the new Labour peers will no doubt soon discover, we cannot simply remain as we are. A Labour government may emasculate us, if it does not abolish us. Even if the prospect is distant, the country should face it.

For me, the most important benefit I gained from the membership of your committee was the meeting of minds. From our shared analysis, came the understanding that the next step was up to the Conservative Party. I believe that other parties are weaker or dreamier and that it is now the Conservative Party which is the main trustee of the British Constitution. So your report not only has great importance as the most wide ranging examination of the House of Lords yet published by a British political party, it is also significant because it studies all 57 of the different varieties of new Houses of Lords which have yet occurred to busy minds. We looked at them all, as readers of the report can judge for themselves. (The House of Lords: Report of the Conservative Review Committee, £1, available from Conservative Central Office).

However, when we turned from diagnosis to prescription, our thoughts began to diverge, although we all agreed with the main recommendation towards which we least. We favoured a mixed Chamber, based on direct election and nomination, with the elected element amounting to two thirds of an overall membership, with the rest of a 400-strong House being composed of those in the existing House. Such a moderate development would grow naturally out of the present House, as many peer would stand for election—including Lord Hagan.

As for me, an unreconstructed Carringtonian, I believe that a strong and useful Upper House can only be secured by transforming our old Upper Chamber into a professional assembly of elected representatives. But I am also sure that to persuade the country and the Conservative Party that the House should aim at such a target will take a long time—especially within the Conservative Party. To make the logical step from being the party which maintains the constitution to becoming the party which orders to conserve the constitution, may have to embrace some radical reforms, is a prospect

whose advance it may take years to measure. Your report reminds us constantly of the spectres we need to dispel, if we are to examine seriously the solutions proposed, even if they are as apparently startling as proportional representation.

Nevertheless even you were not bold enough to suggest we should make a priority list for action, which the next Conservative Cabinet should aim to tackle. I may well turn out that some of our more modest miscellaneous recommendations will have greater long-term significance than those earlier in the report, which have already attracted so much attention in the media. I was particularly in favour of the proposal which stressed that the honours system should be separated from legislative responsibilities in the second Chamber, and I hope my own party as well as others will obey this precept. The urgent requirements for an upper limit on numbers can hardly need further stress, while the suggestion that junior Opposition whips require a salary is a proposal with which I wholeheartedly concur.

But the most urgent topics for an early Cabinet agenda should not necessarily be confined to such matters as those I have just mentioned. What you did not dare to try, but what I will now attempt to achieve, is the pinpointing of those pieces of Lords reform which, while welcome, are not essential to themselves, can act as preparatory steps for more far-reaching proposals later on—all the more so because they help to prevent others from undercutting the foundations on which the stability of our second Chamber is built. It is these that the next Conservative Government must settle.

As a start, an incoming administration should pass a short Bill which makes it impossible to set aside the second Chamber without the consent of both Houses of Parliament. It may be sensible to include other important but minor amendments to the Parliament Acts on such a modest Bill. But it is certainly possible to back history to the extent of securing the future of our Upper House by reverting to something approaching the situation before 1911, when the consent of both Houses was needed before any measure was passed through Parliament. In this way, the position of the House of Lords could be entrenched, without a formal act of entrenchment, which is impossible under the present British legal system.

Secondly, it would be relatively easy to place the delaying powers of the House of Lords more on a par with what they were before 1949, so that the House of Lords could act effectively as a revising and amending Chamber of Parliament, without the present unreformed state, and delay wicked or silly measures for a reasonable time.

The composition of the Upper Chamber may be a conundrum which will take some time to solve. Any Bill to do with the House of Lords will be controversial within the Conservative Party and in Parliament. At least let the Conservative Parliament ensure that we in the Upper House of Parliament are not swept away by default.

Yours sincerely,  
HAGAN  
© Times Newspapers Ltd, 1978.

## Why the Gurkhas don't want to stay in the Far East

The British Government which has been struggling to withdraw a Gurkha battalion from Brunei since 1974 has told the Sultan that it is prepared to leave it there for five more years. The Sultan, whose talent for privatisation rivals that of Ian Smith, is holding out for a period of 20 years, and the Hongkong authorities privately wish him well.

It is a long story which is best to begin in the middle. The latest treaty under which Britain undertakes responsibility for the external defence of this oil-rich Asian Ruritania was agreed in 1971. Then in 1974 there came into power a Labour government at Westminster, pledged to cut defence costs and not entirely sympathetic to the use of British troops for the defence of distant despotisms whom most of the British electorate had never even heard of.

The Defence Review of 1974-75 announced the imminent withdrawal of the unit from Brunei, and the subsequent reduction of the Army's Gurkha battalions from five to four—by amalgamating the 1st and 2nd battalions of the 2nd King Edward VII's Own Gurkha Rifles, the only Gurkha regiment left with two battalions. Then the haggling began.

The young Anglophile Sultan who has more money than he knows what to do with, already pays the full costs of keeping the Gurkhas in Brunei, so in a sense his powers of negotiation are limited. Under the circumstances, the five-year stay of execution which Britain has offered is thought to be not ungenerous and one wonders why he does not accept it.

One reason is thought to be his hope that a Conservative government might come to power in Britain while the negotiations meander along. A Conservative government might or might not be sympathetic to the Sultan's arguments. But it is perhaps more likely to leave the Gurkha brigade as it is, which could remove the pressure for withdrawing the battalion from Brunei.

The military authorities in Hongkong would certainly like the battalion to remain because it offers part of the reinforcement of the Hongkong garrison in the event of a breakdown in internal security in the colony. Moreover, companies in Hongkong rot water equatorial forests on valuable jungle training exercises which the army would not like to forfeit.

But it is the brigade of Gurkhas itself which is watch-



The Gurkhas: an ideal niche in Europe?

ing the protracted negotiations with most interest. Brunei and Britain are the only two locations where Gurkhas now serve outside the New Territories of Hongkong, and they relish the change of scene.

In one sense the Gurkha field force in Hongkong would like to see the matter resolved quickly. In view of the impending cut in their overall strength all Gurkha battalions have been quietly running down during the last year or two, to avoid sudden last-minute reductions.

As a result, they are each short of about 100 men and are suffering serious problems of overstretch. But the amalgamation has recently been deferred from next autumn to April 1979 because of the uncertainty over Brunei, so they will have to make do

as best they can for some time yet.

British Gurkha officers who peer into the clouded future would most like to see emerge some more exciting horizons than the skyline of Hongkong where they now seem destined to spend most of their time. They still entertain hopes of serving with their battalions in Northern Ireland. But those hopes seem forlorn, although there are those who believe that the Gurkhas' fieldcraft and their uncompromising attitudes would clean up South Armagh quicker than one could say "Provisional IRA".

More realistically, they believe that a place might still be found for them in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR). Until recently there has been no obvious role for them on the European battlefield, where the emphasis has been on mechanization. But the new 5th Field Force Infantry formation which in wartime would fight in the rear areas behind the four armoured divisions of the 1st British Corps, might, they think, provide an ideal niche for Gurkhas.

Anyway, they argue with some force that they fought with distinction in Europe during both world wars—so why not now?

It would certainly be a welcome change from their rather monotonous life in the New Territories, chasing illegal immigrants or training for a role which they may never be asked to fill. It would strengthen the career prospects of officers who now have to be cross-posted with other British regiments to receive the

been on mechanization. But the new 5th Field Force Infantry formation which in wartime would fight in the rear areas behind the four armoured divisions of the 1st British Corps, might, they think, provide an ideal niche for Gurkhas.

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mechanized infantry experience which they need to hold down grade 3 staff jobs elsewhere in the Army. But most of all it would broaden the raison d'être of the Gurkhas, which has become too closely linked for comfort to the British interest in the Far East.

Apart from their ethnic fighting qualities which derive from their upbringing in the Himalayan foothills, the Gurkha battalions have a

number of other attractions for a sophisticated western government.

One is that they are embarrassingly easy to recruit. Every autumn recruiting officers weed out a final tally of 400 from about 8,000 hopeful applicants in Nepal. An X-ray examination of their wrists has even been devised to assess their true ages, since 14-year-old boys are apt to sign on, lured by travellers' tales of untold wealth earned by serving someone else's Queen and country.

To a Gurkha brought up in a land of subsistence farming, the money is indeed very good and most of them spend their army service saving every penny so that they can buy themselves security and comparative comfort in Nepal when they retire.

But to the Ministry of Defence a Gurkha battalion is an extremely cheap proposition, costing on average only one-third as much as a British battalion in Hongkong—and proving equally, if not more, effective. Even with local overseas allowances the Gurkha in Hongkong eats only about half as much as the British soldier—although he gets more or less the full rates when posted in Britain.

In some respects they are certainly hard done by. A Gurkha below the rank of colour sergeant has to wait eight or nine years before he can have a married quarter. One of the excuses sometimes given for this is that the Gurkha prefers to leave his family behind in Nepal because he saves more money that way.

But the real reason is that the British and Hongkong governments save more money that way—the Gurkha officers are shy about pressing their case too much in case the Gurkha brigade prices itself out of existence. It is not so much the conditions of service but the very survival of that service that they are fighting for.

Concluded  
Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

### ABECEDARY: H

From Hitler's stone scrub Hitler's name, but let the epitaph remain:  
HERE LIES A MAN WHO HATED MEN  
And underneath maintain:  
WE WISH HIS MUM HAD FELT THE SAME.

Christopher Logue

From Abecedary by Christopher Logue; illustrated by Bert Kitchen; published by Jonathan Cape, £2.50.

## THE TIMES DIARY/ PHS

### Not quite all cut and dried for Sir Peter

The elevation of Sir Peter Rawlinson to the peerage has prompted firm predictions that he will be appointed Lord Chancellor if the Conservatives win the next general election. Clearly, Sir Peter, who has held every other important political and professional legal office, must be favourite for the job. But is not quite the foregone conclusion that the media commentators have made it out to be.

There is still a strong body of Tory opinion favouring Lord Halsbury's claim to another seat. Although now 70, Sir Peter is legal brain is as acute as ever, and his knowledge of the intricacies of the administrative and ceremonial aspects of the job unrivalled.

Another name being mentioned, although he can be considered only as an outsider, is Sir Michael Havers, QC. A former Solicitor General (under Sir Peter as Attorney General), Sir Michael has been the legal adviser to the shadow cabinet since 1974, and is known to be

highly thought of in that capacity by Mrs Thatcher.

He has the next Attorney Generalship for the taking, but may be thought of as worthy of the even higher post. He suffers from being four years younger than Sir Peter and has, up to now, always been junior to him in legal positions to which he has been appointed. He may be doomed to follow in Sir Peter's footsteps.

No such difficulty faces the next Labour administration, should it win the election. Lord Elwyn-Jones, the Lord Chancellor, will not be in the running again, and there is no contender to compete with Mr Sam Silkin, now the Attorney General, for the post.

### Production line

One of the more macabre touches in the Pearson Commission report on compensation for personal injuries recommends that "human blood and organs should be regarded as 'products', and the authorities responsible for distributing them as their 'producers', for the purpose of products liability".

This means that if you are donor of blood or spare parts that do more harm than good, the doctors are responsible.

How we'll have to persuade everyone to vote Socialist to stop the Tories going dangerously left....



Olde Times reminder in a Kenish Times advertisement: "One a Penny, Two a Penny, Hot Cross Buns... packets of four for just 23p."

### Cloudy skies over Beatleside

Word has it that on Merseyside, all is not sweetness and light. First there was that unseemly argument about whether the Beatles should be dignified with a civic memorial, accompanied by some rather rude epithets on their collective talent.

Now, the Royal Institute of British Architects has lent its august name to a competition to elicit ideas for the redevelopment of an area of Liverpool city centre, including the former Cavern Club. It was there, my grey-haired readers will recall, that the quarter launched what the competition's sponsor, *Building Design magazine*, describes as a "pop music revolution."

### The other face of Easter

True to form, the Disney people have all but cornered the market in the secular observance of Easter. One screen, however, is acknowledging the feast's religious origin.

You will find it, looking slightly out of place possibly, in a banqueting room at the Piccadilly Hotel, off the Circus. From next Monday, it will be occupied by *The Silent Witness*, a 56-minute documentary. This is the story of the Holy Shroud of Turin, a subject of

infinite interest not only to me, but judging by the extraordinary reaction to a diary item I carried last year about a London symposium on the shroud, to many other believers and cynics alike.

The film puts up a strong case for the shroud's authenticity but it is not blind to the possibility of fakery and makes the point. Some people may think it does not make it strongly enough. Few will fail to find it riveting.

### Post-Victorian super scrap

The fashionable pursuit of redundant pillar-boxes by collectors of Victoriana has provided an insight into the business acumen of the vastly profitable Post Office.

In 1966, when the hobby was in its infancy, collectors could obtain them at their scrap value of about £4 each, including the Penfold, the attractive hexagonal pillar-box introduced in 1870.

Over the years, waiting lists were introduced by the Post Office to deal with the growing demand. Then, in 1976, the Post Office realised it was on to a winner and circulated all applicants for offers over £500.

Finally, last week, the dwindling band of applicants was told that the price had risen to £700 each for the Penfold, of which there are now only 65 still in use.

Some collectors are thinking of referring the matter to the Price Commission whose predecessors last year ordered the return of £100,000 million in excess profits to telephone subscribers.

A friend at the Post Office admitted to me yesterday that the GPO knows a winner when it sees one.

### A message from the front

The daily routine of the war correspondent is, of course, the most hazardous of journalistic tasks. But, occasionally, it is the service message he files to his office from the battlefield, explaining his predicament and screaming for cash assistance, which best describes his ordeal.

I print in full this service message received yesterday from Robert Fisk, our special correspondent in Lebanon: "Think you should know current reporting routine in case I run into trouble. I currently travelling south to Tyre very early each morning with AP staffers."

After two hours, I write story and get TV crew to take it with them to AP Beirut who (from my bad handwriting) try to decipher copy and send London. All this in precaution in case we cannot get back. Travelling is now very difficult there. About 50 shells have hit the Litani bridge which we have to cross.

Good job I put a question mark in my headline "Last but not one of those Galtys" in the other day when I wrote about Judith Nalms. Another two thriving survivors of George Edwards's golden days have now surfaced. One is Constance Luzzell, who is 87. She is still acting, still giving talks about the Galtys. The other is Mabel Evelyn, a mere 55. She will be at the Grosvenor Hotel in Wigan tonight for the opening of a refurbished restaurant, the Mabs Eating House, which bears the affectionate nickname by which she was known at the Galtys.

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## ACE STILL ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Sadat has so far shown no intention of being persuaded by his search for a solution to the Middle East. In an article in the *New York Times* yesterday, Mr. Sadat's invasion of Lebanon as a new peace, ill-conceived, ill-timed, and ill-considered, but said he intended to pursue his drive for peace, he still believed the gap between the positions of the two sides could be bridged.

Further Israel's remaining stock of good will in the West, thereby making it that much easier for Mr. Carter to apply pressure. What many of Mr. Sadat's western friends and admirers will fear is that the Arab reaction provoked by the invasion will be such as to make Mr. Sadat's own position untenable. Paradoxically, however, the emotional impact on the Arabs, other than those directly affected, may actually be less than it is in the West. From an Arab point of view, Israel's action is entirely in character. Few Arabs would see any moral difference between what has happened since last week and the wars of 1956 and 1967. Arabs have long been convinced that Israel covets the waters of the River Litani and would sooner or later find a pretext for occupying Southern Lebanon. They regard Israel as a state that seizes territory when the occasion arises and withdraws from it only under the most intense and explicit international pressure.

What has changed in Arab attitudes over the last ten years or so is that there is now much greater realism about their own capacity for dealing with Israel militarily, and greater appreciation of the need for diplomacy. The Palestinian programme of reversing history and destroying the Jewish state is now regarded by most Arabs as utopian, and the Palestinians' attempts to implement that programme by a series of terrorist pinpricks directed at the Israeli colossus are regarded as not merely suicidal but extremely dangerous for all Israel's neighbours. The

## Is Northern Ireland a British colony?

From Mr. David Morrison  
Sir, It is the objective of the lobby led by Jonathan Dimbleby (which Christopher Walker wrote about on March 16) to have the Northern Ireland problem characterised as a colonial one by the British media. But it is absurd to regard Northern Ireland as a colony of Britain. Northern Ireland has remained part of the British state by the will of a large majority of its people and shows no sign of changing that allegiance. Its social and economic life is intimately bound up with the social and economic life of Britain. The Northern Ireland working class, both Protestant and Catholic, are of their own volition, organized in British trade unions. These are hardly the characteristics of a colony whose ultimate destiny is to separate from the mother country.

From Mrs. Gwyneth Dunwoody, MP (Labour)  
Sir, So David Wood (March 20) thinks Westminster has something to learn from Strasbourg. I am afraid I must disagree. To begin with, the experience of a number of years has proved very plainly to me that the highly artificial Committee system is a thoroughly badly organized farce. Each political party "carves up" the appointments of "rapporteurs" in a confidential bureau before the Committee meetings, with little concern for the ability or interests of the rapporteurs.

## Politics at Strasbourg

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## World Cup on television

From the Director General of the Independent Broadcasting Authority  
Sir, The short answer to Mr. Kenneth Bird (March 17) is that BBC and ITV could easily "sort themselves out" if the BBC would agree with the IBA that the six matches now due to be shown simultaneously on BBC and ITV should be divided between the two channels. A tossed coin or two could then lead to three being seen on BBC only and three on ITV only.

## Officers' gratuities

From Mrs. Sally Couchman  
Sir, Lord Chelmsford (article March 6) seems to have missed one important reason for the increase, "this current financial year", in the number of Army officers resigning their commissions. This is simply that after April 1, 1978, an officer having served for ten years will no longer receive a gratuity on presentation of his commission. This lump sum of ready cash, which previously cushioned the financial upheaval on changing to civilian life, is now withheld in accordance with the deferred pension scheme.

## The Windscale Inquiry findings

From Mr. Peter Taylor and Dr. Gordon Thompson

Sir, We wish to make some comments concerning Justice Parker's report on the Windscale Inquiry. These comments may be of interest in connection with the forthcoming parliamentary debate. Our perspective is based on a prolonged attendance at the Inquiry and involvement, by each of us, both as advocate and expert witness.

The Parker report is indeed a clear exposition of the views of its author. It will, however, be of little use to anyone wishing to decide the matter for themselves on the basis of the evidence put to the Inquiry. The report provides only a modicum of cross referencing to the documentary and oral evidence and it is highly selective in regard to the evidence it quotes. This can be illustrated by the treatment accorded to our own evidence.

## Quality of life in Cuba

From the Cuban Ambassador  
Sir, I thought it wise to allow a few days to elapse before attempting to reply to the panoply of articles by Bernard Levin painted of Cuba (March 14 and 15). Anger which he unquestionably provoked by his widely distorted and woefully inaccurate account of life in Cuba has now given way to a sense of sadness that a journalist of such distinction can write such unmitigated rubbish about a country he has never visited.

## Bandied about

From Dr. Brian Bertram  
Sir, Your report (The Times, March 18) on the Post Office for 89 million rubber bands to last it for a few months, and you note that if these were laid end to end they would reach to Bombay or stretch to Australia and back. We all know, though, that they are not laid end to end, but instead are littered over pavements by the postpeople in a most haphazard way. Why cannot they be reused by the Post Office?

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## Burning wrecked tanker's oil

From Sir Eric Drake

Sir, The catastrophic loss of another big tanker laden with crude oil off the north-west coast of France leads one to inquire at what stage the various insurers involved will ultimately conclude that the remaining cargo will have to be destroyed by burning.

## Aircraft noise and exams

From the Headmaster of Park House School

Sir, As Headmaster of what was until very recently a secondary modern school on the southern outskirts of Newbury, I view with grave concern the proposal to base USAF KC-135 tanker aircraft at Greenham Common. There would take off less than two miles from the school and, having a very slow rate of climb, would be at only 135 metres altitude when crossing it.

## Sale of forged blocks

From Miss Margaret Cowen

Sir, I viewed with alarm Geraldine Norman's article on March 15, re Sotheby's auction of the 25 printing blocks of makers labels of good violins of the 19th and early 20th century.

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John  
machineryTHE TIMES  
BUSINESS NEWSFoord  
valuersS Government  
recast points  
world shortage  
oil by 1982

Frank Vogel

London, March 21

Ministers in the Congress today are expected to enter a critical decision on whether to immediately after the holidays.

It is suggested that demand for oil will exceed supply by 1981 and that a substantial light develop by 1985, sharp upward pressure on oil prices.

James Schlesinger, Secretary of Energy, said: "A large share of the energy problem is structural in the United States. It is that much of the solution originates with the States."

He said a subcommittee of a economic committee would start to be composed by supply conditions in 1980s even with the of "vigorous and all" energy programmes other than the States.

385 the world demand would be 3 to 8 million of oil daily below average and that was an prediction.

A substantial gap in 1985 energy even if west oil output trebled a next seven years to 5 million barrels a day.

non-Opec output to 10 barrels a day would remain even if its output by 5 to 10 barrels a day while production in production also free world oil production between 61 and 67 million barrels a day.

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SE aims at  
April 21  
for options  
launch

By Our Financial Staff

The Stock Exchange Council has pencilled in April 21 as a Friday as the target date for launching a traded options market in London.

So London seems to have decided to abandon the race with the Amsterdam Stock Exchange, which intends to launch a Chicago-style options market on April 4.

There had been pressure to open a "simultaneous" with Amsterdam because one of the main sources of custom for the London market is seen as being initially international investors.

However, with the market still carrying out a "dumpling" on the trading floor, after official business hours, the council has apparently decided to adopt a more cautious approach.

Meanwhile, the council has now virtually given its approval to suggested commission rates for option dealing based on a £2.75 flat option contract rate plus 21 per cent of the total consideration involved.

Under present proposals the 21 per cent rate will taper to 15 per cent after five contracts with further tapering thereafter.

Alison Mitchell writes: Lingering doubts that the stock market would drift uneasily through the long Easter account were dispelled yesterday when the FT Ordinary Share index rose 7.7 to 466.3.

Its best level since mid-February.

Dealing was up 25 per cent on the previous day's trading, though business was again boosted by "bed and breakfast" deals being put through before the end of the tax year.

There are few signs yet that the institutional and pension fund investors are prepared to back the rally, but neither are they coming into the market as sellers.

Grand Met deal: About 94 per cent of the holders of Grand Metropolitan's £122m 10 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1991/96 have exercised their right to convert into ordinary shares. Grand met said it had decided not to use its powers of compulsory conversion in respect of the remainder of the stock.

Along with Austin Morris and Jaguar Rover Triumph it is one of the three subsidiaries which make up BL Cars, the new name for Leyland Cars.

It is understood that the man to head BL Components will be announced within the next few days. However, sources close to Mr Clancy said last night that the fact that he had not been chosen for the new job was not the reason for his departure.

A colleague said: "Jerry was in fact offered a much more but felt that with BL as the crossroads now was a good time to move outside the company."

It is understood that he is considering a number of new offers, some of which are outside the motor industry.

Mr Clancy joined BL in 1972 after 14 years with Ford of Europe. He was director in charge of finance, planning and control at Leyland Truck and Bus (now renamed Leyland Vehicles) until 1976, when he moved to cars to take over parts and service.

Last year his responsibilities were increased by the inclusion of Vanden Plas, foundries and a reorganised SU-Burec.

By Our Midlands Industrial Correspondent

Another senior British Leyland executive has resigned. Mr Jerry Clancy, aged 43, head of the car parts and service division and a former director of Leyland Cars, leaving at the end of the month.

He is the seventh top executive to leave since Mr Michael Edwards was appointed group chairman four and a half months ago.

The parts and service division with a turnover of £500m a year was renamed BL Components in the recent Edwards reorganization and expanded by the inclusion of the former Pressed Steel Fisher car body factories.

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## Japanese trucks in cut-price threat

By R. W. Shakespear

Industrial Development officials on Merseyside have expressed some reservations about reports that an Irish company intends to move into the area to start distributing Japanese trucks, which will become "cut-price" competitors to British manufacturers like Leyland.

The company, P. and J. Harris, has an existing and expanding assembly plant near Dublin airport. From relatively small beginnings it has developed rapidly by assembling trucks delivered in knock-down form from Hino Motors the Japanese manufacturer.

Harris now claims to have at least 7 per cent of the market for heavy trucks in Ireland and is reported to be ready to open a base in the Liverpool area, aimed at the British and European markets.

Such a move would clearly be a mixed blessing. On the one hand Merseyside, with unemployment running at almost 12 per cent and several big industrial closures pending, would welcome job opportunities.

On the other hand, the low-priced Japanese trucks would become direct market rivals to those built at Leyland's six factories at Leyland and Chorley, only a few miles away in Lancashire.

A spokesman for the Liverpool Industrial Development Office said yesterday: "We are treating these reports, contained in a BBC television programme, with some caution. About two years ago there were similar suggestions that the same Irish company had plans for a move into the Merseyside area."

"We followed it up and supplied the company with details of available sites and the assistance that was available here, but we heard nothing more. Obviously we

will again take steps to contact them and let them know what is available on Merseyside."

In the television programme a senior executive of Harris was adamant that by Christmas the company would have established a central distribution point in the north of England and that it would be operating through between eight and ten dealer outlets.

The first objective of Harris (UK) would be to sell 1,500 trucks in Britain in the first year.

The reports brought an immediate response from Mr Allen Russell, marketing director for Leyland Vehicles, who said: "Because Ireland was in the Community the company would be able to ship or assemble vehicles in the United Kingdom without restrictions."

Mr Russell suggested that the move planned by Harris amounted to importing Japanese vehicles "via the back door". But we are entitled to protect our own market and there should be moves to prevent even the first of these vehicles being registered in this country."

Mr Russell said: "We are not trying to eliminate competition. We have the vehicles to match anything made by the Japanese. But we are entitled to protect our own market and there should be moves to prevent even the first of these vehicles being registered in this country."

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Car components chief  
resigns from Leyland

By Our Midlands

Industrial Correspondent

Another senior British Leyland executive has resigned. Mr Jerry Clancy, aged 43, head of the car parts and service division and a former director of Leyland Cars, leaving at the end of the month.

He is the seventh top executive to leave since Mr Michael Edwards was appointed group chairman four and a half months ago.

The parts and service division with a turnover of £500m a year was renamed BL Components in the recent Edwards reorganization and expanded by the inclusion of the former Pressed Steel Fisher car body factories.

Along with Austin Morris and Jaguar Rover Triumph it is one of the three subsidiaries which make up BL Cars, the new name for Leyland Cars.

It is understood that the man to head BL Components will be announced within the next few days. However, sources close to Mr Clancy said last night that the fact that he had not been chosen for the new job was not the reason for his departure.

A colleague said: "Jerry was in fact offered a much more but felt that with BL as the crossroads now was a good time to move outside the company."

It is understood that he is considering a number of new offers, some of which are outside the motor industry.

Mr Clancy joined BL in 1972 after 14 years with Ford of Europe. He was director in charge of finance, planning and control at Leyland Truck and Bus (now renamed Leyland Vehicles) until 1976, when he moved to cars to take over parts and service.

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Picket protest 'halts'  
strike at Longbridge

By Clifford Webb

British Leyland workers who

took part in an angry "We want to work" demonstration at the group's Longbridge car plant claimed last night that they had halted a strike which had earlier threatened to put an end to the improved production since the start of the year.

About 500 sheet metal workers in the body shop walked out on Monday night in protest at the action of a foreman. They complained that he had worked with the tools of the trade, contrary to local and national agreements. Management said he had been demonstrating work to a new employee and that only one car body was affected.

As a result of the walkout a further 1,300 assembly workers were laid off, stopping all Mini production. Their shop stewards immediately called meetings and mounted pickets at the factory gates.

The pickets complained that they had had only one strike in the past five years, but were always being laid off because of the action of others. So pickets had been mounted to spread the effect of the strike in the hope that a complete shutdown of British Leyland's biggest plant would bring the parties to their senses.

By early afternoon Allegro assembly was also affected and a further 400 men were sent home.

The demonstrators took even more direct action when a party of them removed the Mini body which had been "blackened" by the sheet metal men.

They claimed that with its removal there was now no reason why they should not be recalled for work. By late afternoon with more of the factory coming to a standstill a BL Cars spokesman announced: "The strike is over. The sheet metal men are returning to enable their complaint to be discussed. We are recalling everyone laid off

of protection, which has led to numerous cases of imitation and piracy in a market in which many more brand names are on sale than in other comparable western countries.

The court's decision, which was reached after a public hearing on the subject on November 9, but published only today, comes into effect tomorrow.

It found that the effective ban on patent protection for medicines was in variance with Article three of the constitution which lays down equality among the country's citizens, with Article 41 protecting free private economic initiative and with Article nine on the Republic's duty to promote scientific and technical research.

For years reputable manufacturers at home and abroad have complained about the absence

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## Welsh Council urges retention of £835m plan for Port Talbot

By Tim Jones

In a report on the future of steelmaking in Wales, the Welsh Council said yesterday that the £835m development programme at Port Talbot should proceed. This advice comes on the eve of the Government's White Paper on the British Steel Corporation.

The council, which reports to the Secretary of State for Wales, calls for an overall strategy for the industry and a restructuring of the British Steel Corporation's finances, and is critical of government and local office interference.

Sir Melvyn Rosser, the council's chairman, says: "Having established the objectives and the strategy, management and the workforce alike at the individual plants should be allowed to get on with the job of producing quality steel at competitive prices, with minimum day-to-day intervention by the Government."

The council felt strongly that the continuing uncertainty within the industry resulting from the constant process of review was a prime contributor to the present lack of confidence



Sir Melvyn Rosser: "Sustained efforts to decentralize decisions from London."

and which were incurred at a time when interest rates were very high.

While it was desirable to diversify the industrial base of the Principality to reduce its present dependence on steel and allied industries, steel would continue to be the largest employer for many years.

It is well known that product quality at Port Talbot is not satisfactory. Investment is needed now to ensure that Port Talbot's products can compete on quality grounds with steel from elsewhere."

The report adds: "We do not believe that the Government or the corporation would wish to embark on a course of action that signalled a belief that the quality of our technology and workforce was incapable of competing with other countries."

In the council's view there must be a place for Port Talbot in the corporation's plans to maintain competitive integrated steel plants. We would view with great concern any delay of investment which has the effect of endangering its future in that role."

The council, Sir Melvyn said, was concerned about the heavy interest charges which the corporation had to bear as a consequence of essential investment

programme for System X.

A slump in home demand for telecommunications equipment has been the salient feature of the market in recent years, the report says.

The sector's output since 1970 has been characterized by a fast increase during the period 1970-73, mainly due to increases in the home market, followed by a much faster decline in home demand in 1974-77.

In June 1973 employment was 93,000 and at March 1977 it was 69,200.

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## Building chief attacks cuts in home lending

Cuts in mortgage lending, announced recently after growing government concern about rising house prices, were disappointing but not disastrous, Mr Colin Shepherd, president of the House-Builders' Federation, said yesterday.

The federation has been one of the most forthright critics of government plans to ration mortgages, and earlier gave a warning that the cuts would affect house starts.

Speaking in Nottingham, Mr Shepherd said yesterday that he had been concerned at the beginning of the year that the Government would misinterpret a "once and for all" market adjustment in prices and act to restrict mortgages unnecessarily and ineffectively.

Such an adjustment was required to recover ground lost in the past four years when the rate of price rises had been twice as fast as prices.

The rate of price increases would level off naturally once a viable relationship between prices and costs had been restored, he said.

The decision to reduce lending was "unsound and premature in its judgment of the market". However, Mr Shepherd conceded that the result was not as disastrous as some reports suggested.

The reductions apply between April 1 and June 30 and will result in a monthly lending rate of £585m over the first six months of this year. "Provided that the cuts are then restored, they need not deter housebuilding from maintaining their programmes."

Although builders are worried that the cuts will still have an effect during the best selling months of spring and summer, recent figures show that a good start to the year has been made by the private sector.

Private house starts in February were 30 per cent up on the average for the month over the previous four years and close to the average for the boom years of 1970 to 1973.

Mr Shepherd said that house-builders are operating in a market which was fundamentally sound in the long term and is now on a strong, rising trend.

ports could be achieved by 1983. This is outside the time horizon set by the strategy but the SWP has been monitoring the programme.

"When it is in service Post Office procurement is expected to amount to about £3,000m at today's relative exchange equipment prices, but if System X is not also successful in export markets, the future of the industry will be affected."

The study places stress on employment in the industry. The overall level of employment is expected to fall in the period to 1981, but less dramatically than in recent times, it says.

The SWP is collecting data to help identify the skill and locational shifts which may be expected before the large scale production of System X.

United Kingdom, which in 1963 had 25 per cent of the market (equal to West Germany), is now seventh in the league table, lying behind Sweden, West Germany, Japan, Belgium, the United States and France.

"World trade is dominated by exchange equipment, and the failure of the United Kingdom to have available an up-to-date and comprehensive range of switching equipment has been the major contributory factor in the loss of market share which has occurred."

Loss of market share has been fastest in the highest growth areas of South America and the Middle East.

System X is to be introduced progressively, says the report. The first digital trunk switching centre is due to be in service by the end of 1982 and first exports

standing trade deficit went down and could be below \$5,000m (about £2,631m) for 1977, a reduction of 2,500m on 1976, the commission said in its report on eastern Europe's economies.

The Commission said this sluggish performance in east-west trade was compensated for by a vigorous expansion of exports to developing areas and increase in trade among communist states.—Reuters.

Geneva, March 21.—The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe called for an urgent reassessment by communist countries of their foreign trade strategy after a year of sluggish east-west trade.

Eastern Europe's exports to the West apparently rose by only 3 per cent in volume last year, while imports dropped by 5 per cent, the Geneva-based commission said.

The communist states' long-

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Providing competitive pay for 'dynamic graduates' in British industry

From Mr P. A. G. Harris.

Sir, It is somewhat difficult to reply adequately to the letter from Mr P. A. G. Harris published on March 17, in which he deplores the comparatively low rates of pay offered by industry in Britain to graduates as compared to those available elsewhere in Europe, without knowing the background of Mr Slove's education and experience.

One notes that he is completing a doctorate at Oxford University and one wonders to what extent he has actually worked in industry and what real qualifications he has for holding a managerial job, bearing in mind that management is not just a matter of academic qualification but involves among other qualities the very necessary ones of humility and readiness to learn from one's elders and betters.

One also wonders whether Mr Slove has achieved his present level of academic qualification at the expense of the state or through sacrifices made by his parents.

Yours faithfully,  
P. A. G. HARRIS,  
3 Pembroke Gardens,  
Woking,  
Surrey,  
March 20.

Whichever of the two opportunities of a European job at £6,000 per annum seems a great deal better than a British job at £4,000 per annum. It may be that Mr Slove will find that in real terms his standard of living and the quality of his life are not all that much better outside Britain. Has he given thought to the question of whether he has a debt to the society to which he belongs and whether his undoubted talents should not be employed in improving the standard of management in this country rather than leaving it to the "dufflers" of "stop-at-homes" and the rejects from the Civil Service and from the academic world to go on running things instead of placing the future of British industry in the hands of the "dynamic graduates" amongst whom he classifies himself?

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### Customs failure to consult over new rules for ship visits

From Mr P. N. B. Shaddick.

Sir, Question: What is consultation?

Answer: When a government agency, having neglected to consult the views of interested parties, decides to transfer work to those parties, and refuses to change its mind, it helps if the interested parties are mostly small businesses in the private sector, and if they can be assured privately that the government agency does not consider them to be interested parties, while Parliament is told that "consultations have taken place and are continuing."

I refer, of course, to the celebrated decision of HM Customs to stop their offices from visiting ships arriving in the United Kingdom (This, we are told, will help to prevent smuggling). So that activity shall not be entirely lacking, however, the master or agent of the ship will be compelled to fill in forms

and deliver them to the Customs, in the middle of the night, regardless of expense.

The new rules are uncompromising, and they were published as a fait accompli in January. Since then, HM Customs' response to our protests has been to assure us that local collectors of customs will have discretion to bend the rules, and to appeal for our cooperation. This may be British compromise, but in reality it just means that nobody knows where they are. (Need I add that the scheme is scheduled to start on April 1?) What is required is that HM Customs accept advice and change the rules. But, Sir, have they the grace to do it?

Yours faithfully,  
P. N. B. SHADDICK,  
Member of Council,  
The Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers,  
Queen's Buildings,  
Swansea.

The single-trip PO rubber bands

From Miss A. M. Norman.

Sir, My mother has not purchased a rubber band for 25 years. She has a large collection gathered from outside her front door where the postman drops at least one a day.

Could not the Post Office be persuaded to use the bands more than once and thus save

### Opportunities for bi-lingual secretaries

Sir, I found Mr Horrocks' version of "Lack of opportunity for bi-lingual secretaries" (March 15) most interesting although my own expertise quite different.

At 64, and notwithstanding my desire to devote my quiet translations, I am affected to continuous need to accept a stream of bi-lingual secretaries.

It has to be admitted, ever that with the exception of my own European War Department, all the firms whom I work are foreign firms anxious to place goods on the English market.

The problem for bi-lingual secretaries is twofold: bi-lingual secretaries are needed in the export department, where the firm itself does not know a guage but English, he is of using the services of a secretary whose competence cannot be found.

Bi-lingual secretaries able to find employment in English firms are few and far between.

Yours faithfully,  
VERA WESTERMAN,  
5 Albert Drive,  
Wimbledon Park,  
London, SW19 6LP,  
March 17.

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### EEC seeks more checks on shoe imports

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, March 21

The EEC is to begin systematic surveillance of imports of shoes into the Community. This will ensure early warning of any large-scale influx because of barriers to footwear imports in America, Canada, South Africa and New Zealand.

South Korea, Taiwan and Hongkong have been warned by the European Commission, on behalf of the Nine, that a close watch will be kept for signs of diversion of their exports from these restricted markets to the Community.

The Commission has been under strong pressure to take action

## Neddy warning on telecommunication exports

By Malcolm Brown

Failure of "System X" to make an impact on the export market could affect the future of the telecommunications industry.

This warning about the new generation of all electronic exchange and transmission equipment is given in a report by the National Economic Development Council's sector working party on telecommunications, published yesterday.

The report, which is part of the industrial strategy exercise, says bluntly: "If the United Kingdom does not retrieve its position as a major export supplier this time round it will probably never be possible."

The principal recommendation of the report is that all possible encouragement should be given to the collaborative

development programme for System X.

A slump in home demand for telecommunications equipment has been the salient feature of the market in recent years, the report says.

The sector's output since 1970 has been characterized by a fast increase during the period 1970-73, mainly due to increases in the home market, followed by a much faster decline in home demand in 1974-77.

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### Small firms plea for tax cuts

By Our Industrial Staff

The Small Business Bureau of the Conservative Party has written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer urging him to cut direct taxes in the Budget.

The Budget should, it is urged, be designed to enable small companies to make and retain profit for growth and keep pace with inflation and to bring back the private banker for risk-taking.

Income tax at the middle and top levels is particularly injurious to sole traders, partnerships and the self-employed, the bureau says, and much the same applies to participants in

small limited companies.

It recommends that the top rate of tax should be reduced at the earliest opportunity to European levels, and ultimately to 50p in the pound. Another reform sought by the bureau is that income tax thresholds and bands should be substantially increased at all levels.

Special provision for small companies was also recommended yesterday in a publication by the bureau describing "proprietary companies" — the new type of incorporated businesses proposed in the Conservative Party policy document *The Right Approach*.

### February steel output up 2 pc

Brussels, March 21.—Crude steel production in February in 29 countries belonging to the International Iron and Steel Institute (IISI) dropped 5.2 per cent from January but rose 2 per cent from the year-earlier month, the institute reported.

February production totalled 34,380,000 metric tons, down from 36,293,000 tons in January but up from 33,706,000 tons in February 1977. This small increase reflects slightly greater production in the United States and some European countries.

Eastern Europe's exports to the West apparently rose by only 3 per cent in volume last year, while imports dropped by 5 per cent, the Geneva-based commission said.

### UN call on trade strategy by communist countries

Geneva, March 21.—The United Nations Economic Commission for Europe called for an urgent reassessment by communist countries of their foreign trade strategy after a year of sluggish east-west trade.

Eastern Europe's exports to the West apparently rose by only 3 per cent in volume last year, while imports dropped by 5 per cent, the Geneva-based commission said.

The communist states' long-

## Essex Water Company

Mr. A. W. White's statement to Stockholders

### Consumption

The overall daily consumption for 1977 was 76.5 million gallons, which compares with 77.1 million gallons in 1976 with its long dry summer and 78.5 million gallons in 1975. The demand for metered supply by industrial and other consumers has declined steadily since 1973, the quantity supplied in 1977 being 14½% below that for 1973, resulting in a considerable reduction in revenue over these years. On the other hand, the domestic or unmetered demand has continued to increase, although not as rapidly as had been anticipated.

### Charges to consumers

Arrangements have now been made for this Company to take over the billing and collection of sewerage and environmental services charges from four local authorities as from 1st April, 1978. These areas fall within the Company's area of supply. The billing and collection will be on behalf of either the Thames or Anglian Water Authorities for whom the local authorities formerly collected these charges.

Billing of these charges in the remainder of the Company's area of supply for the Anglian Water Authority will commence as from 1st April, 1979.

The effect on most consumers will be that from the appropriate dates they will receive from the Company one account, showing as separate items the Company's water supply charges and the Water Authority's sewerage and environmental services charges. The total bill will, therefore, be larger than the previous water supply account, but the appropriate local authority's General Rate demand will no longer include the sewerage and environmental services charge.

The Water Authorities will make appropriate payments to the Company for the extra work involved. The accounts for the year show a deficit of £225,000. Ever increasing costs, together with the reduction in the industrial demand for water, make an increase in the Company's charges inevitable from 1st April, 1978. The increases will be kept to a minimum consistent with the Company's statutory obligation to provide an adequate supply of wholesome water and will be subject to acceptance by the Price Commission.

### Water Charges Equalisation Act

The provisions of this complicated and contentious Act become effective from 1st April, 1978 and it is expected that the Company will receive £48,000 in 1978 for the benefit of domestic consumers. This is equivalent to a deduction of less than 10p from the water rate payable by the average consumer for a full year, or a reduction in the rate poundage of less than 0.4 of a penny.

### Capital Expenditure

Net capital expenditure during the year amounted to £2,142,000 and brings the historical total to £46,867,000.

Apart from work on additional trunk and dis-

tribution mains, the conversion of the Layer-de-la-Haye pumping station from coal fired steam boilers to electric power was completed and the construction of a new pumping station on the Stour aqueduct at Ardleigh was commenced. At Romford, a new computer block was completed and now houses the Company's new ICL 2904 computer which is functioning efficiently; work continues on the new South Essex Divisional Depot Complex.

### Changes in Capital

On 31st December, 1977 £250,000 of 3.5% (formerly 5%) preference stock, 1972/77 was redeemed at par.

### Reorganisation of the Water Industry

Last year I referred to the possibility of a further reorganisation of the water industry and while the threat to nationalise the 28 statutory water companies remains, the most recent Government White Paper indicates that nationalisation will not be proceeded with for the present. I believe this decision, for whatever reasons, is both right and helpful for the water industry and the country as a whole; it is to be hoped that good sense will prevail and that the companies will be left to continue to serve their consumers in co-operation with the Regional Water Authorities and National Water Council.

### The Queen's Silver Jubilee

To mark the celebration of the Queen's Silver Jubilee, Open Days were held at five of the Company's source works to which the public were invited. As a result of the large numbers attending and the considerable interest shown, it has been decided to hold similar open days each summer at selected works.

Conducted tours of the works for staff and families were also arranged and the children of employees were presented with commemorative Silver Jubilee mugs, suitably inscribed and bearing the Company's name.

### Directors and Staff

It is with great regret that I have to record the death of Brigadier Gerald Shenstone on 5th November, 1977. Brigadier Shenstone became a director of the Southend Waterworks Company in December 1962 and joined the Board of the Essex Water Company on its formation in July 1970. He had a long and distinguished life and his wide knowledge and friendliness will be missed.

Mr. Paul Channon, M.P. for Southend West, has taken a considerable interest in matters affecting the water industry in



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Imps underlines the problem

Group shares took yesterday's sharp rise after the first half results. After a period of relative weakness in the depressed tobacco sector, shares should be able to soak up the rise in the yield of 10 1/2 per cent 7 1/2 p and the near certainty of a maximum rise in the current year's distribution.

Imperial is expecting a sharp fall in share price, with market estimates of a fall of 10 p. But the company also expects to make this up in the second half as disposable incomes rise. The Budget. And after the dismal show-

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stuck in the depressed steel markets, Weir's are producing improved results. Desalination would have been around 25 per cent better than the £874,000 reported had it not been for a contract which was delayed and is being commissioned this week, and the pump businesses are continuing to win business overseas.

The rising pound has been eating into margins, however, and last year's 35 per cent increase in trading profits from pumps was helped greatly by the closing of a problem company this year before. This year is unlikely to be so good.

Taking Weir as a whole, though, with some increase in the United Kingdom economy at the back end of the year, further profits growth of 10 to 15 per cent should be possible.

Lower interest charges are helping and borrowings last year held steady, but none of this really explains why the shares should have gained a fifth to 12 1/2 p against the market in the past three months. Bid rumours seem far-fetched. So despite the results the shares seem overpriced.

### North Sea

### Exchange rate questions

Pursuing their normal pattern of discounting as much of the future as possible at the outset, financial markets duly made their mark of the prospective North Sea oil "bonanza" in the first half of last year. Since then the doubts and qualifications have been steadily creeping in, none of which is likely to be relieved by the Government's White Paper, *The Challenge of North Sea Oil*.

Not, of course, that this was intended to be anything other than a general policy document. What will matter at the end of the day is the specific policies this or any future government eventually adopt. But what one can say is that the emphasis of the White Paper seems to be rather more on increased public spending than cuts in taxation.

Of rather more immediate interest, perhaps, is what is both said and unsaid about the balance of payments effects of North Sea oil. The Government is obviously all too aware of the exchange rate effects of such a massive, single-product import substitution on the rest of British industry. This, it says, only serves to emphasize the need for improved efficiency in British industry. The problem, of course, is that the exchange rate effects of the oil flows are going to come through very much more quickly than the time it takes to knock British industry into shape.

● *Harrisons & Crosfield and its satellites are not known for doing things by halves*. Nevertheless, *London Sumatra's* rejection of the *McLeod-Steele* bid and the valuation of the Indonesian estates is something of a coup de grace.

The bid's implied value of the planted Indonesian estates of £70 an acre was, obviously, far too low, but the new valuation of £339 an acre was beyond the dreams of most—and that was even after reducing the full valuation by a third to arrive at a "fair and equitable" open market price.

London Sumatra's net asset value is now calculated at 270p a share, compared with a bid price of 110p a share. *McLeod-Steele* is likely to announce today a further extension of the offer, but the original price is not worth talking about now—the shares rose 7p to 126p yesterday.

If *McLeod-Steele* has done anything, it is to draw out a lot of information from *London Sumatra*, which, rather like *H&C* at certain stages during the *Three Sisters* battle, seems to be entering into the spirit of things. *London Sumatra* will in future disclose all share purchases in *H&C* group companies, while an outside non-executive director is apparently being sought.

More importantly, the question of profit remittances from Indonesia has been clarified and there is the clear indication that official agreement is near. (It is worth noting, however, that *Harrisons Malaysian Estates* has yet to fulfil all the terms of its scheme despite the passing of a year.)

The Government, according to its White Paper on the benefits of the North Sea oil revenues, is expecting production from British offshore waters to rise to a peak of 100 to 150 million tonnes in the middle of the 1980s and then to decline to rather less than 100 million tonnes a year by the end of the century.

Exploration in the difficult waters of the North Sea has shown that there are indeed the submarine reserves to support production at these levels. The Government is meanwhile building up its machinery to ensure that oil from the North Sea is taken to meet national requirements and is not decided entirely by the natural desire of the oil companies to recoup their expensive North Sea investments as quickly and as painlessly as possible.

Control over the rate at which oil reserves are depleted is common in most producing countries, particularly after the first few years' output have enabled the oilfield developers to recover their initial investment. At present, Britain's offshore oil producing industry is still in its infancy, and barely half way towards meeting the Government-set target of self-sufficiency in oil by 1980.

But this will not always be the case. Once Britain meets the goal of self-sufficiency—100 million tonnes a year—in, it is hoped, 1980, the Government will have to decide to creep upwards to the peak of oil production. At this level, Britain could be exporting 50 million tonnes (a million barrels a day above its net requirements) at a time when oil prices are rising rapidly from the \$14 to \$16 barrel mark, which is expected to remain as long as supply and demand are more or less in balance. High quality North

Sea oil could easily be commanding \$20 a barrel. Revenues from export sales at these prices are obviously attractive to any government and national requirements would play the main part in deciding whether to pursue an expansionist oil production policy. However, the Government has given guarantees to oil companies developing North Sea fields that they will not be subject to any restrictions on production until 1982 at the earliest. So, by the time decisions need to be taken, the Government could have a completely different view of energy requirements and prospects into the late 1980s and 1990s, which could make a conservationist production policy far more likely.

Britain's oil reserves are large—2,300 million tonnes of proved and probable reserves—but are strictly limited. Even if all the outside possibilities were to prove productive the reserves would be increased only to about 3,200 million tonnes.

The Government's present policy will lead to production declining in the late 1980s and 1990s—and will present problems.

Total energy demand in Britain, of which oil has been

the talks finished on Friday and by the following morning the airlines were making bookings under the terms of the package which the discussions had hammered out—£53 single to Boston, £89 single to Los Angeles or San Francisco, for example.

The summer looks like being a cheap fare jackpot for air travellers, but there is a danger that they will not benefit in the long run if the airlines get their sums wrong.

What no company really knows at the moment is how diversionary the new range of cheap fares will be—that is, whether they are creating new traffic from people who would not have flown at all had the tariff not been lowered or whether they are simply diverting passengers who would have travelled anyway, and who would have paid much more to do so.

As part of the Washington package, the airlines are limited to offering a specific number of cheap seats each week. No company is prepared to reveal what the airlines are offering, but it is obvious that the profit can be reckoned in pennies—if they do not actually make a loss.

It is not simply a case of filling a seat which would otherwise have been empty, at no cost. Ticketing budget passengers, who have to give 21 days notice before travelling, will be more than offset by the cost of the airline's departure day by the airline, is an expensive business. Extra staff have to be drafted in to deal with stand-by passengers, who queue for their seats on the day of departure.

But the most vital sun which the airlines must answer correctly is that concerning diversion, for if too many passengers wanted to fly in the

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Whoever gets the job, it looks as though the new man will be working before the introduction of changes in legislation to allow him, or her, to promote more actively the commercial and industrial advantages of the docklands. Powers to enable the manager to "go out and sell" more actively were approved by a Commons select committee only last week.

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## North Sea oil: regulating the flow to suit the national interest

Roger Vielvoye, discussing the North Sea oil White Paper, examines arguments for allowing production to expand or, alternatively, for conserving supplies to meet longer term energy demands

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Total energy demand in Britain, of which oil has been

meeting about half, was about 200 million tonnes of oil equivalent in 1975 and is expected to rise to 240 million tonnes by the middle of the next decade. By the end of the century demand for energy could be about 320 million tonnes a year, while oil production will be able to meet less than one third of this.

The expansionist policy will require Britain to make good its oil shortfall at a time when production from many of the established Opec countries will also be past its peak or on a plateau from which it cannot rise. Breaking into this tight oil market would be expensive and put greater pressure on world resources that could lead only to still higher prices.

The White Paper makes it clear that investment in new energy sources will be needed to meet the needs of the economy in this period and is suggesting that part of the North Sea oil revenues should be diverted into new and unconventional forms of fuel. Coal and nuclear power are tried technologies but it can take many years for projects to pass from the design stage to the point where they are producing energy.

Likewise, the development of renewable forms of energy—solar, wind, tidal and geother-

mal power—are still at an experimental stage.

A conservationist policy has many attractions, particularly in dealing with the transition from an oil-dominated energy economy to one where hydrocarbons play a supporting role to coal and nuclear power, providing chemical feedstock and fuel for transport and other applications that cannot readily be replaced by other forms of energy.

Keeping the rate of oil production at a steady level, perhaps just over the self-sufficiency level, in the 1980s would enable indigenous oil to play a much greater part in meeting national energy requirements into the 1990s and to the end of the century, allowing the transition to take place without traumatic pressures from outside.

Whether Britain actually needs to be self-sufficient in oil has also been raised in unofficial discussions in government circles. The country has only half Britain's oil requirements so far from the North Sea has already stimulated the economy.

Restraining production at under 2 million barrels a day is unlikely, however, to endear Britain to its EEC partners,

who are without their own oil resources, or the offshore industry, which needs continuing a commitment to offshore development to maintain its workforce and profitability.

Guidelines for depletion policy were laid down in 1974 by Mr Eric Varley when he was Secretary of State for Energy. The oil companies had been drawing up their plans for rapid exploitation of North Sea reserves to bring immediate relief to the hard pressed economy.

To avoid discouraging anyone, Mr Varley said that fields discovered before 1975 would not be subject to delays to their development schedules and no cuts would be made in production levels until 1982, or four years from the start of production. It is estimated that between a half and two thirds of reserves are covered by these provisions and that for technical reasons any cuts in output would have to be limited to about 20 per cent.

Fields found after 1975 are free from cuts until they have recovered 150 per cent of the investment. During the period when this policy was devised, neither oil companies nor government had realized the full extent of the difficulties facing the North Sea oil projects, on account of the delays in nearly all the development schedules.

At that time the Government assumed that the first wave of field developments would be followed immediately by second generation reservoirs, like Magnus, Murchison and Taran, which would have provided a production hump in the early 1980s. In fact, the second generation fields were held up by the wrangle over participation and will not start coming on stream until fields like the Forties have passed their peak, giving a much smoother build-up in production.

givers would receive what they paid for, so that the end of the aircraft meals would not be included in the price of the ticket, but could be bought as an extra—a scheme started by Laker Airways with its Skytrain service.

Outlining the results of the Washington talks to Parliament earlier this week, Mr Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, said that the new fares package would increase passenger traffic between the two countries to four and a half million this year from four million last year.

But Mr Adam Thomson, chairman of British Caledonian, pointed out in a recent speech that the scheduled airline industry had had a deficiency in earnings of £2,500m in this decade on the North Atlantic, which he described as "a chronic disaster area".

As can be seen, bulk does not necessarily mean profits on the air routes and that is why the airlines will be watching the balance of low and high revenue fares very closely this summer. If they miscalculate, some of them may not be in business next summer.

Arthur Reed

## Cheap air fares at too high a price?

'If too many passengers wanted to ride in the cheap end of the transatlantic jumbos, the road to bankruptcy would be opened wide'

cheap end of the transatlantic jumbos the road to bankruptcy would be opened wide. British Airways, with its high staff numbers, would be less able to stand up to such economic crosswinds than would its leaner and more quickly adaptable United States competitor airlines.

A stampede into too many cheap fares too soon would also have a serious impact on the business travel market. If the scheduled airlines became, in effect, charter companies, then the timetabled services upon

which businessmen depend to transport them at short notice would begin to disappear.

The cheap fares across the North Atlantic this summer must be seen as an experiment and the fares could be altered radically, and almost certainly upwards, by the summer of 1979 when the airlines see clearly the impact they are having on their finances.

At the same time that it reviews the results of the experiment the airline industry should work towards a simplified tariff. At present, air fares across the Atlantic are confusing to the public, with as many as 12 different rates being offered for a journey in the same airline.

British Caledonian Airways has the right idea in this sector. It has recently promoted a plan under which the aircraft would be split into three classes, as opposed to two at present, and under which there would be six different fares, ranging from high-cost first-class down to a very cheap "eleventh hour" ticket where passengers would not know the fare until one hour before departure whether they had a seat.

Even more important, passen-

Arthur Reed

## Business Diary: Cuts for IMF? • Single-mindedness

United States government salaries easier, the following examples of differences are to be found.

At the top of the bank the president, Robert McNamara, earns \$60,000 (£31,000) a year net, which is about \$110,000 gross compared with, say, the chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, William Miller, who earns \$57,000 gross.

A bank vice-president earns what amounts to a gross salary of \$30,000 to \$37,320, compared with \$50,000 for a United States assistant secretary. The pay range for a professional graduate with modest experience at the bank is \$27,320 to \$43,450 gross, while the comparable United States Civil Service level is \$21,883 to \$28,444.

● Lloyds underwriter Alan Lamboll yesterday resigned his place as one of the City's 28 elders and with it his chance of becoming 652nd Lord Mayor of London.

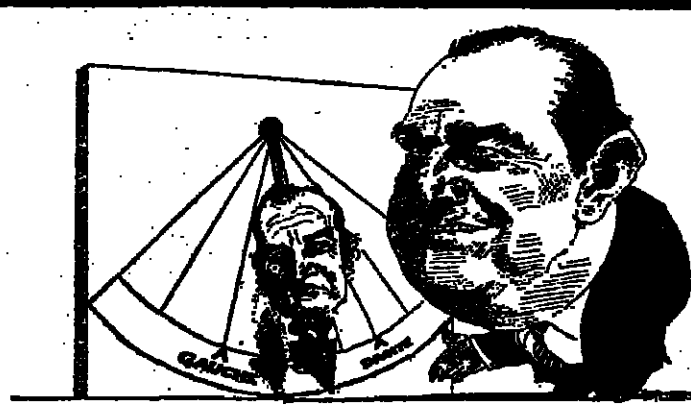
Lamboll told Business Diary's Ross Davies last night that his experience as Sheriff in 1976 had taught him that whoever was in the Mansion House needed a wife to share the duties.

He is a bachelor and at 54 says: "I am not prepared to get up and get married just to be the Lord Mayor." The last bachelor Lord Mayor, a Guildhall spokesman said, was Sir John Laurie in 1941.

During his year as Sheriff Lamboll's sister, Mrs Cora Mayhew, travelled from her Bristol home to accompany him on official occasions.

Lamboll could have expected to be Lord Mayor in November next year. The present incumbent, Sir Peter Venneck, is expected to be succeeded later this year by Kenneth Cox, the accountant who specialises in receivership.

By resigning, Lamboll automatically loses his magistracy, but he has been appointed magistrate in his own right by the Lord Chancellor.



Claude Cheysson (left) and Raymond Barre: the road does not lead to swinging Paris, after all

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One man who watched the returns in the second and final round of the French elections with special interest was Claude Cheysson, the Frenchman who is the EEC Commissioner responsible for Community policy towards the developing world.

A moderate left-winger with friends in influential places in François Mitterrand's Socialist Party, Cheysson made it pretty plain in recent weeks that he would be open to offers of a senior cabinet post if the left won a famous victory.

During the run-up to the first round of voting, when French opinion polls were predicting

a clear win for the left, Cheysson ventured several partisan sallies, on one occasion describing as "absurd" the suggestion that a socialist government would be less well disposed to the EEC than the present majority.

This did not go down well in Paris where Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, had been assiduously conjuring up the bogey of wholesale French abolition from its Community obligations in the event of a leftist victory. Cheysson, he said, was "interesting in France's internal affairs".

Commissioners are formally independent of national governments and cannot be recalled by them. But will Cheysson find life uncomfortable now that Barre is to continue at the Hotel Matignon?

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## WHATLINGS

CIVIL ENGINEERING AND BUILDING CONTRACTORS

### RESULTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30th September, 1977

	1977	1976
Turnover	20,537,000	20,611,000
Profit before Tax	661,000	464,000
Dividend per 25p share	2.58p	2.3p
Earnings per 25p share	7.77p	7.49p

- Increased profits following improved liquidity position.
- Substantial plant replacement programme undertaken.
- Volume of turnover should be maintained despite cuts in Government expenditure.
- Company in good position to benefit from improved demand at home and overseas, although profit level for the current year will be under pressure.

Copies of full report from the Secretary, North Claremont Street, Glasgow G3 7LF

## Y. J. LOVELL (HOLDINGS) LIMITED

MAIN GROUP ACTIVITIES: Building, Residential and Commercial Developments, Plant Hire, Timber Importing and Merchandising

### A year of steady growth

#### SUMMARISED RESULTS

	1977	1976
Group Turnover	54,111	50,000
Profit before Taxation	1,706	47,537
Profit after Taxation	1,580	1,580
Ordinary Dividend 3.25p per share (1976-3.48p)	268	239
Earnings per Ordinary Share	22.5p	21.9p

(\* In accordance with ED19 proposal, 1977 charge relates solely to ACT. Comparative figures adjusted)

#### Extracts from Address to Shareholders by the Chairman, Peter Trench

"... Taking all things into consideration Lovell is in pretty good shape. Traditional contracting is still highly competitive but residential, commercial and industrial development has taken an up-turn in recent months and we are relying on this sector to help make up for any decline in profits elsewhere this year."

"... After a dull start we are hopeful that timber division trade will pick up in the second half-year."

"... Work on our Nigerian projects is progressing well; we have set up a joint venture company in the USA and have reached agreement to establish a joint venture organisation in Saudi Arabia."

"... I am very pleased at the way that things are shaping and the continuing implementation of our corporate plan is producing a Group of Companies soundly based and well managed."





# Revenues will be taken into account in annual updating of spending plans

In this White Paper, the Government sets before the British people its view of the likely size and duration of the oil revenues, and its own priorities for making use of those revenues in order to regenerate the economy and build a prosperous and just society.

In 1977, North Sea oil production was already equal to about half the United Kingdom's total consumption; and the balance of payments gained by some £2,000m. Without it, the financial turn-round of 1977 would have been more difficult, and would have taken longer. By 1980, we expect to be producing as much oil as we will consume; and we can expect to be a net exporter of oil at least for some part of the 1980s.

How much is North Sea oil likely to be worth? (a) It will increase our national income and the gross national product. The United Kingdom income arising directly from oil production in the North Sea is expected by 1980 to be about £4,500m (at 1977 prices) or rather more than 3 per cent of present gnp. By the mid-1980s, the direct contribution should rise to about £6,000m a year.

(b) It will contribute to government revenue. To start with, receipts will be small, because development costs will be set against profits. But later on they will become quite a substantial source of revenue. Estimates for the mid-1980s (referring to both oil and gas production) suggest a total yield of approaching £4,000m (at 1977 prices).

(c) It will help the balance of payments. Just how large this benefit will be depends very much on the use we make of the opportunities it creates. Estimates of the potential gain have been made on the assumption that neither the exchange rate nor the level of domestic activity is affected. On those assumptions the total balance of payments will be better than it would otherwise have been by about £5,500m in 1980 (at 1977 prices) and about £9,000m or £9,000m in the mid-1980s. We must keep these gains in perspective. As these figures show, North Sea oil represents

only a relatively small addition to our total national resources, but it adds substantially to government revenue, and it is a major help to our balance of payments. These benefits will be at their height for a decade or so; thereafter, they are likely to decline and we may become net oil importers again in the 1990s. So the question is how we use this once-and-for-all opportunity to build on the policies which the Government is already pursuing to strengthen the British economy fundamentally.

Still more important, however, are the indirect effects. Because North Sea oil will greatly reduce our import bill, the balance of payments constraints on expanding the British economy will be much relaxed. As a result, the prospects of steady, sustainable growth are greatly improved. What we need are the right policies for industrial investment, so as to use this opportunity for expansion to bring about a permanent improvement in our economic efficiency.

The Government's general policies will be designed to create the conditions in which its plans for the sensible use of North Sea revenues can best be achieved.

**Economic expansion**

First, the Government aims to promote the expansion of economic demand and activity, and get the economy moving forward to full employment. This will be much easier to do if other major industrial countries take similar expansionary action; and the Government will continue as it did in 1977—to urge on other major countries the need for effective action to bring the world economy out of the present recession. But even if the world economy does not recover rapidly, the United Kingdom can take advantage of its improving economic position to start expanding the economy through appropriate fiscal and monetary policies. In doing this the Government will do everything it can to ensure that the

exchange rate leaves industry competitive in terms of price and is compatible with the aim of returning to full employment. Second, it is important that, in the process of expansion, we maintain and improve the international competitiveness of our industries. Otherwise we shall lose export markets and suffer increasing import penetration. A crucial requirement for such an improvement in our competitiveness is to retain the upper hand in the battle against inflation: prices and incomes must not again accelerate out of control. Furthermore, with the flow of oil benefiting the balance of payments by up to £8,000m a year (at 1977 prices), the market rate for sterling may be stronger than would otherwise be justified by the underlying competitive position of United Kingdom industry.

Third, industrial efficiency goes beyond price competitiveness. This is why the Government must insist—as it indicated in the White Paper on Industrial Strategy—to give industry first priority in the whole range of its policies.

Fourth, a new approach to industrial relations will also be required: one which replaces attitudes of confrontation with democratic participation. Fifth, the Government aims to provide as much stability as possible in its economic policies and measures. Sudden changes in policy discourage industry from branching out into new fields, and the greater freedom brought by North Sea oil can be used to avoid such lurches in policy.

In pursuing these objectives the Government will take account of the external debt which has been incurred in recent years. Much of this falls due for repayment in the next few years but provided we maintain a programme of reducing our net indebtedness it should be possible to extend the period of repayment substantially by refinancing.

We could use the temporary bonus of North Sea oil to go on a national spending spree, awarding increases in private and public consumption, which would last only for the

duration of the oil flow. But when the oil revenues began to decline, the economy would then be left with an extremely unpleasant period of adjustment to lower living standards. We would have done virtually nothing to prepare ourselves for the time when we will not have the revenues and may need to import energy once more.

The nation must not allow the benefits of North Sea oil to be misused in this way. Instead, we should aim to convert the short-term benefits of North Sea oil into a permanent improvement in our economic and industrial efficiency, and consequently in our national standard of living. By channelling part of our oil resources into industrial investment, into productive capacity, both public and private, and into essential infrastructure, strengthening British industry through new investment and additional capacity, and by modernizing our essential public services, the government strategy will help to increase the United Kingdom's economic strength both while the oil is flowing and after it runs out. By devoting resources to energy conservation, and to the expansion of alternative energy sources, (both conventional and new), the government strategy will help to save foreign currency and to reduce our reliance on imported energy when our own oil is exhausted.

By curbing taxation, the government strategy will improve the incentive to work, and will help to ensure that the potential improvements in our growth rate, made possible by higher investment, will in fact be realized. Such an improvement in our national performance will provide extra resources to improve our public services.

**Greater freedom**

North Sea oil gives us greater freedom of manoeuvre to meet these needs of industry. With less constraint from the balance of payments, we can use this freedom to pursue policies which offer the prospect of steady growth of demand at higher levels than would otherwise have been possible. In the first stage of recovery,

One of the production platforms in BP's Forties field in the North Sea, with a helicopter about to land and a supply vessel in the foreground.

increased personal consumption will contribute directly to creating a favourable climate for industrial expansion. As the recovery proceeds, more caution will be needed, to ensure that resources which, on a longer term view, should be devoted to industrial investment and infrastructure, are not pre-empted, as has often happened in the past, by unreasonable increases in consumption.

Investment can be planned and executed only within industry itself. But in partnership with both sides of industry, there are ways in which the Government can help directly.

North Sea revenues will also allow an expansion of selective assistance. The normal test for most investment projects will, of course, remain that they can attract commercial funding in competition with other investment projects. But experience has shown that the capital market needs to be supplemented by selective intervention—where the risks are high and worth taking or where the payoff is long term.

The National Enterprise Board, together with the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Development Agencies, will

continue to play a vital role in the selective promotion of worthwhile investments—either directly, or in partnership with private industry. The performance of some of its major subsidiaries is of fundamental importance to large parts of British industry.

The tripartite industrial strategy points the way forward by steadily building up, sector by sector, a detailed picture of the opportunities ahead and the action needed to seize them. There are many areas where the Government can help directly, and processes to be developed and exploited. The Government will do everything possible to further the industrial strategy through the Sector Working Parties and to encourage the firms and unions concerned to see that the conclusions of the Working Parties are translated into positive action in the board room and on the shop floor.

**Regional policy**

Much remains to be done, especially in the older urban areas. The Government intends that some part of the North Sea oil revenues should be used to tackle long-standing problems of Scotland and other assisted areas. The regional policies already in operation, together with activities of the Scottish, Welsh and Northern Ireland Development Agencies and the NEB will continue, both directly and in partnership with private industry, but the Government believes that more needs to be done. The emphasis will be on projects or schemes aimed at the expansion of industry in these regions and on ensuring that they are well placed to benefit from the industrial strategy.

The Government, in its recent Green Paper on Energy Policy, set out in detail the prospects for the development of new energy sources—both conventional and renewable—and the main lines of its present energy strategy.

The first is investment in alternative energy sources to meet the needs of our economy in the medium-term and then to assure our supplies when North Sea oil and gas begin to run out. On current forecasts, United Kingdom primary energy demand is expected to rise from a total of 200 million tonnes of oil equivalent in 1975 to perhaps 240 million tonnes in 1985, to some 330 million tonnes by the end of the century, and to go on rising thereafter. During this period, North Sea oil production is likely to rise to a peak of 100-150 million tonnes in the middle 1980s, and then to decline to rather less than 100 million tonnes by the end of the century and progressively to decline thereafter. Investment in new energy sources will therefore be needed if our supply objectives are to be met. Our main need will be

What we need are the right policies for industrial investment so as to use this opportunity for expansion to bring about a permanent improvement in our economic efficiency.

for very substantial investments in conventional energy sources—coal, gas, oil and nuclear power. But in addition to these investments in conventional energy, we shall require a growing expenditure on new and unconventional sources of fuel supply.

Directly linked with this is the need for more energy conservation policies. These have saved us approximately £2,000 million over the last four years; and new policies announced at the end of 1977 aim at an annual saving of 10 million tonnes of oil equivalent worth some £700 million. By the end of the century, energy could cost two or three times what it costs today. Further development of energy conservation measures will therefore be an integral part of energy policy.

The Government sets scope for a considerable reduction in taxation in the next few years. However, a programme of major tax reductions, with no direct provision for any expansion in the economy's productive base, might increase national living standards only temporarily. Of course, in the future, with North Sea oil helping the balance of payments by up to £8,000m to £9,000m a year (at 1977 prices), it is possible that we might be able to sustain a consumer-led boom for longer than we have managed in the past; furthermore, reductions in taxation will certainly be needed to keep the process of expansion going. But unless accompanied by other permanent improvements in our economy, expansion of consumer demand might well benefit foreign rather than domestic suppliers and would not be sustainable in the long run.

In the Government's view, increases in investment and in living standards are mutually reinforcing. In striking the balance in the 1980s, the Government will need to pay particular attention to the problem of ensuring that more jobs are available. The process of modernizing our manufacturing industry and the introduction of new technology can often mean fewer jobs than there were in particular plants and processes. On the other hand if our manufacturing industry is internationally competitive, it should be able, at least to maintain if not increase overall levels of employment; and many new jobs should become available in the service sector, including the public services.

The Government intends to retain a firm control over public expenditure so that it does not absorb too high a proportion of the nation's resources. However, certain areas of the public sector can be identified where it would be in the national interest to devote some of the North Sea revenues.

**Ambitious programme**

This is an ambitious programme. It includes of course things which we would have undertaken without North Sea oil. The latter however gives us additional resources and reduces the constraints. The Government believes that this augmented programme is fully capable of achievement. It will, however, take years of determined effort as the Government revenue from North Sea oil builds up from £1,500m in 1979 to approaching £4,000m a year in the mid-1980s and is channelled towards transforming our economic and industrial performance, securing our energy position in the longer-term and improving our economic and social infrastructure. Moreover the relative weight to be given to our various objectives will change as the economy grows stronger. Priority at first must be given to getting the economy expand-

ing fast enough to reduce unemployment. The Government will make a report to Parliament and to the nation each year showing progress towards these objectives. The objectives set out in this White Paper are the first step in the process of the Government's economic strategy.

The Government has considered whether it should further and set up a separate fund into which part of the revenues would be paid, from which money would be used to finance specific projects which merit special consideration. After much consideration the Government has concluded that it is not possible to do things in this way. A fund would mean having for a fixed sum in a specific priority separate from the rest of the Government's main expenditure programme, many cases these areas overlap.

**Essential**

In the belief that it is vital that both Government and industry should be able to apply their judgment of what is best for the nation across the totality of expenditure and taxation. The Government has decided that the best strategy for North Sea revenues is to be decided within the existing framework of the national accounts. The Government has rolling forward program of expenditure covering 5 years ahead which are updated annually. These forward programs are approved by the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The Government also has rolling forward program of expenditure covering 5 years ahead which are updated annually. These forward programs are approved by the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The Government also has rolling forward program of expenditure covering 5 years ahead which are updated annually. These forward programs are approved by the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

For these reasons, the Government has decided that the right course is to present annual progress reports in details of the revenues from North Sea oil in addition to other sources of revenue of the effect of their application to further the objectives of the White Paper. The Government believes that this will be a meaningful and setting-up development fund which will have the effect of underpinning the decisions. We will have to take them.

For the next decade we have the considerable revenue of North Sea oil and a balance of payments which is better than we have had since the 1950s. The Government intends to use this time as an opportunity to secure lasting national economic recovery. This means giving clear priorities for the use of North Sea revenues.

The Government is confident that the strategy described in this White Paper is the one. The Government will the framework and play its part: we are committed to creating economic activity employment. Better should follow. These and from the nations which can be given afforded. Investment in the private and public sector is an essential part of strategy. But investment whether in manufacturing industry, in the energy industry, in essential social infrastructure is not enough. As we have been given the chance to harness our talents energies to a program National Recovery, that rebuild Britain's prosperity greatness. It is in that that the Government invites the nation to use the opportunity presented by the Sea oil.

## Imperial Group Limited

Extracts from the statement by Mr. John Pile, Chairman, at the Annual General Meeting held in London on 21st March 1978.

### Trading

In essence, our accounts show that largely owing to expected problems in the Tobacco Division, which were partly due to the changes which were about to take place in the duty structure but also because of reduced purchasing power, we made less money in real terms than in 1976. That, however, is the story of one year only. Like my predecessors, I maintain that our primary duty is to look at Imperial in the longer term. We are a great company with management second to none and a record which shows that we are not easily overcome. The change in tobacco duty structure made king-size cigarettes relatively more attractive, and that sector of the UK market, which now accounts for nearly 50% of all cigarettes sold, has grown five-fold in the last two years. When I tell you that our reaction has been to increase our own share of this sector during that period from 10% to over 50%, which meant multiplying our sales more than twenty times, you will see what I mean by our ability to respond to a challenge.

### Industry and Governments

For years there have been complaints about the intolerable burdens placed on industry by frequent changes of political policy. The voices, it seemed, were crying in the wilderness. I wish to speak on this theme today with real hope that we may at last be reaching the stage when there can be a national approach to industrial matters, bringing a stability on which we can build.

We have seen policy reversals of many kinds, not only when governments change but even within the span of a single administration. There have been governments which abjured intervention in industry and then felt the need to save "lame ducks". There have been attempts to bring industrial relations within a legal framework by both major parties, both failing for different reasons. The present government, which rejected this policy, has now enacted more legislation affecting industrial relations than perhaps any other since before the First World War. We have seen incomes policies accepted and rejected, pay freezes, pay "norms" and now a covert pay control by means of sanctions on employers who do not conform to the rules. And these rules, which were designed to allow for differential pay increases and were called "guidelines", have now changed into a rigid strait-jacket. There was an Act to outlaw restrictive practices, a reliance on market forces with monopolies legislation to prevent abuse, and then a series of counter-inflation laws which at every stage altered the rules under which applications for price increases could be justified. Add to these examples the effects of taxation changes—corporate, excise or personal, and taxes on spending—the effects of various incentives to support regional or other social policies, the many attempts to produce a workable and fair state pension scheme, and one has still far from exhausted the list of government actions and capriciousness which have left industry in Britain bewildered. Then there are the dark threats from the left wing of the Labour Party, such as further nationalisation, interference in company management by professional trades unionists, pension funds to be made to serve unspecified social ends, even a threat of withdrawal from the EEC with all that that implies for industrial policy.

### A more balanced approach

With this unhappy history of the last decade or more you may wonder at my naivety in saying, as I did earlier, that there is now real hope that a cohesive approach can be achieved. I have three reasons for this belief.

The first I approach with some caution because it is a

political matter. But it is already clear that the present government can no longer so easily obtain support for contentious or doctrinaire legislation because of its need to carry other parties with it. It seems increasingly likely that, with the advent of nationalist and perhaps other minor parties, future governments may be faced with the same difficulty. Furthermore, there is a greater readiness for members of a party in disagreement with the leadership to vote against it.

It was with this background in mind that many of us sympathised with the idea of election by proportional representation, but the strength of opposition in the House of Commons has made a move along this road seem unlikely in the short term.

My second reason is a more fundamental one. I believe that the disenchantment with arbitrary government, among people of all persuasions is increasingly plain. Government policies are seen as being all too often misconceived. Over the last few years we have seen at various times a rush for growth which sucked in imports at an insupportable rate; price controls which have damaged companies while giving only marginal help to the consumer; employment protection laws which have tended to discourage employers from taking on more people. It often seems that legislation has the opposite effect to that intended.

My third reason for believing that the time is ripe for a more balanced approach to industry's future is that politicians are increasingly subject to outside forces. Not only trade unions but organisations and pressure groups of all kinds have shown that they are no longer as willing as in the past to accept legislation which is inimical to the interests of those they represent.

This puts a new responsibility on those who seek to influence the government, and the voice of moderation will be heard more frequently when those who speak have to answer for the consequences of what they say.

### A New Forum

All these developments point, however hesitantly, towards a more consensus approach to our problems. The best answer would undoubtedly be for Parliament itself to be more responsive to the extensive advice that is available from people who have practical understanding of the requirements of industry and the ways in which others depend on it; perhaps a reformed Upper House might fill the role. I hope we shall one day come to this, but there are too many examples of over-government and instant-government at present for me to think that it will come soon enough. In the meantime, therefore, I believe that an attempt should be made to bring together the many disparate interests which are affected by industrial legislation, to consider independently its content and scale before it goes through the Parliamentary process.

I am thinking of a body representative of many groups concerned with our industrial success so that Ministers would receive a broader view than is available to them at present when their discussions are almost wholly with the CBI and the TUC. In some way the voice should also be heard in this council of the self-employed, consumers, the providers of finance, local authorities, the professions, civil servants and, importantly, members of major political parties, even when out of office.

The council could be invited to send representatives to "Neddy" to provide a wider forum for the discussion of industrial issues with Ministers and through them with Parliament. It could report publicly on the issues of the day and time be a further contribution to open government. It might well on occasion agree to differ but even in such a



Mr. John Pile, Chairman, Imperial Group Limited.

case the debate in Parliament must surely benefit from a knowledge of the reasoned views reached, after long and careful thought, by the representatives of those most directly involved.

Many difficulties in establishing this body will doubtless be found; there are always such. I am not equipped to produce the perfect structure for it. I only know that the wish for more unity is shared by many of us and that the right type of organisation could become a powerful moderating influence. The principle of the national approach—the joint approach—must surely be right. I believe it is the responsibility of all of us to encourage it in every way we can; if successful it would prove to be the greatest single aid to Britain's long-term growth in wealth which we all so strongly desire.

### Prospects for the Current Year

Trading results for the first three months were at a lower level than for the same period last year, as we had anticipated. With an immediate recovery in consumer spending now improbable, I expect this trend to continue, in which case there may be an appreciable decline in our profit in the first six months of the current year. It should be remembered, however, that these lower figures will be in comparison with the results of the first half of last year which were better than those of the second half; 1978 could well show the opposite pattern. All our Divisions are much influenced, directly or indirectly, by the level of personal net incomes and if, as is greatly to be hoped, personal taxation is markedly reduced in the forthcoming Budget there will be two beneficial effects on us. First, the money left where it ought to be—in the consumer's pocket—will be used in part on our products, all of which stand high in the estimation of purchasers. Second, there will be a general improvement in the economy and the increased activity will generate a further advance in total consumer income. In the belief that the Budget will be favourable and because of my faith in our managements to adjust to change and to seize opportunities, I believe that, unless there is some unexpected difficulty put in our path, the results for 1978 will prove to be at least as good as those for 1977.

## The Scottish Western Investment Company Limited

	31st December 1977	31st December 1976
Equity shareholders' interest	£58,430,192	£55,858,000
Asset value per share	110.6p	108.5p
Revenue attributable to ordinary shareholders	£1,132,975	£943,400
Ordinary shares ranking for dividend	50,598,710	50,036,990
Earnings per ordinary share	2.24p	1.88p
Ordinary dividend per share	interim 0.80p final 1.80p	0.80p 1.40p
Capitalisation issue in 9 ordinary shares	2.08137%	1.9388%

Mr. J.A. Lumsden, M.B.E., made the following points in his Chairman's Statement.

### YEAR'S RESULTS

The revenue attributable to ordinary shareholders at £1,132,975 increased by almost £190,000 giving earnings per ordinary share of 2.24p against 1.89p, an increase of 18.5 per cent. Our Board recommends a final dividend of 1.80p, making 2.20p for the year as compared with 1.95p for the previous year, an increase of 12.8 per cent. I anticipate a further increase in dividend in respect of the current year and the Board now recommends that the interim dividend be increased from 0.80p to 0.70p.

### FUTURE OUTLOOK AND POLICY

Over recent months the confidence in the recovery of the UK economy has weakened, and the stock market has declined substantially from the level reached last summer. The improvement in our balance of payments has caused sterling to appreciate, especially

in relation to the dollar. This is tending to make our exports less competitive, particularly when there has been a general slowing down of economic growth throughout the world. The USA, there has been steady economic growth, although a lack of confidence in the Carter administration and a continuing adverse balance of trade has demoralised the stock market, which has had a most disappointing performance during 1977. However, we continue to feel that our substantial investment that country will prove rewarding. Our objective is to achieve growth in net asset value per share combined with a steady increase in dividends. Our broad investment strategy is to have a well-balanced portfolio based primarily on the three major economies of the USA, UK and Japan.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, 3rd April 1978 at 175 W. George Street, Glasgow G2 2LD.



MANAGED BY MURRAY JOHNSTONE LIMITED.



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Stock markets

## Buildings and stores in demand

With the number of bargains swelled by more "bed and breakfast" deals equities had a much stronger session with a persistent, if selective, demand for sectors which stand to gain most from the Budget.

Construction shares, stores and motor traders all went ahead on this count and though demand was never heavy it spread to an even wider range of second line stocks. After 3.30 pm the whole market was given an extra lift by the oil revenue White Paper and prices finished at the top with the FT Index 77 better at 466.3, by far the best day of the present account.

Bargains of 5.273 more than 1,000 better than Monday's total. Despite the increased trading, there are no signs yet of the institutions coming back into the market. With fixed interest yields offering some 12 per cent at the longer end and corporate profits remaining under pressure, the incentive for the fund managers to build up their equity holdings.

Bu neither are they sellers. Hopes of a reduction in capital gains tax in the next Budget are combining with fears of being caught out should the market turn to leave the institutions holding on to their portfolios.

Liquidity is building up, but from a low base. A lot of cash went into Government stocks in the latter half of last year, but the fund managers are not yet faced with the problem of too much cash.

Hope dies hard in the Henry Wigfall story. Last month we had a warning mention of the shares at 276p and now they are 217p. They still look dear on the distinct possibility that no bidder to rival Comet will come forward. Meanwhile the Wigfall board with 45 per cent of the voting muscle behind it is as adamant as ever against a persevering but luckless Comet.

However, the gilt market saw few signs of the big buyers yesterday. In light trading Government stocks ended the session much as they started with long having gone a quarter better at one point.

At the shorter end stocks ended about a sixteenth up, but off their best levels of the day. Hopes of increased consumer spending on the back of Budget tax reductions put some glaze on our stores. House of Fraser, with results due next week, added 3p to 140p. Analysts have been gradually revising their estimates upwards and there is talk that profits will be as high as £40m against a previous

£27m but the general forecast centres around £35-36m.

The stores sector, which underperformed the market in February, has gone ahead this month and among those to increase yesterday were Boots up 5p to 210p, GUS 'A' at 288p and Marks & Spencer at 150p both 4p better, and British Home Stores, at 180p, Debenhams at 105p and Woolworth at 65p showing gains of a penny or two.

A good profits rise and a one-for-one scrip issue at Bradford-based supermarket group Wm. Morrison was enough to send the shares leaping 24p to 210p and put some life into Sainsbury, up 4p to 167p, Hillards 5p better at 193p and Kwik Save 5p firmer at 80p. There has also been a "bear" squeeze at the latter.

However a nine-month trading loss and news that there will be no dividend from J. E. Sanger left the shares languishing down at 36p.

With the help of a firm Wall Street and the White Paper oil shares were well to the fore. Shell, in particular, was a good spot rising 12p to 524p, with BP up 7p to 782p, an active Ultramar the same amount better at 232p and Tricentral, looking for good news soon on Thistle Field production, 6p ahead at 162p.

Over among the "blue chips" the way ahead was led by Unilever up 12p to 496p, with eightpenny gains from ICI at 358p, Beecham 630p and Glaxo 535p.

As dealers pondered the Turner & Newall annual report the shares put on a couple of pence to 185p, but a cautious statement from the chairman of Imperial Group made little impact the shares being unmoved at 79½p.

In front of figures today Tube Investments jumped 8p to 378p but possibly because of a cautious circular from Midland broker A. E. Sharp GKN were more subdued rising 4p to 282p. Trading news lifted Garton Engineering 6p to 78p.

The pick of a selectively strong construction sector were Costain at 258p and Taylor Woodrow at 270p, both 8p better.

Manchester Guitars' move for W. J. Reynolds has sparked speculation about which motor distributor could be next. A number are seen as vulnerable but a favourite is Leyland dealer Wadham Stringer which has attracted a good deal of interest over the past week or so.

At 40p the shares stand close to their "high" for the year. Thos Barlow has more than 20 per cent of the shares.

ter, and Marchiel which rose 6p to 260p. Crane hire group Richards & Wallington, often talked of as a takeover prospect, saw a flurry of activity jumping 5p to 81p.

Dealings in Saga Holidays, which start today, are expected to begin at 117p, a 12p premium on the issue price. After abortive takeover talks Marshalls (Jaxley) returned at 33p and closed at 43p compared with a pre-suspension price of 34p.

After a bullish circular from Scott Giff United Scientifics always a speculative spot, rose 18p to 290p while for a like reason Robertson Foods gained 6p to 137p. In rubbers an asset valuation lifted Condon Sumatra 7p to 126p while recent investment plans had Albright & Wilson 6p up to 120p.

A combination of a "bear" squeeze, takeover hopes and talks of easier credit restrictions before or from the Budget

## Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Armstrong (I)	39.4(28.4)	4.0(2.7)	—	0.8(0.72)	—	(2.02)
Belgrave (I)	4.7(0.04)	0.07(0.03)	1.39(0.56)	0.32(0.12)	—	0.64(0.37)
Bemrose (F)	39.8(33.0)	1.78(2.18)	7.77(10.84)	1.94(1.34)	2/6	3.82(2.69)
Capsale (I)	10.1(8.6)	0.56(0.52)	—	0.88(0.8)	—	1.89(1.72)
Cope Adams (I)	78.9(72.3)	3.7(3.4)	3.74(3.39)	1.41(1.4)	—	3.4(3.13)
First Guernsey (F)	—	0.23(0.62)	1.23(1.29)	—	—	—
Garton Eng (F)	11.17(9.05)	0.014(0.012)	—	3.5(3.0)	4/5	3.5(3.0)
Wm Morrison (F)	85.6(65.9)	1.1(0.82)	16.1(12.3)	0.31(—)	3/7	0.57(0.51)
Ruston TV (I)	26.2(21.8)	3.0(1.6)	17.68(11.94)	1.28(—)	—	2.25(2.05)
S. J. Sanger (a)	57.4(—)	0.53(—)	—	15.0(—)	—	—
Ston Sum Pkt (F)	—	0.48(0.46)	—	5.81(5.0)	24/3	8.39(8.0)
Talbot (I)	4.9(3.6)	0.24(0.08)	—	0.35(0.2)	—	—
Toussin (F)	10.0(7.5)	0.73(0.43)	8.07(5.5)	1.22(1.87)	—	3.02(2.68)
W. & E. Trar (F)	10.0(6.2)	0.95(0.65)	6.45(4.1)	1.22(1.09)	5/3	1.74(1.56)
Weir Group (F)	160.4(138.1)	9.1(7.51)	23.09(16.1)	3.5(3.19)	—	3.2(4.73)
West Motor (F)	19.6(15.8)	0.69(0.24)	28.16(10.09)	1.54(1.64)	3/6	2.1(1.96)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.15. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Nine months. b Forecasts. c Gross income. d For 15 months.

## Hartebeest to enlarge uranium capacity

By Desmond Quigley

Hartebeestfontein, the Anglo-Transvaal gold mine, is to enlarge the treatment capacity of its uranium plant in order to treat surface slimes dams.

The expansion programme, which will cost about R5m, will take two years and will increase capacity by about 45,000 tons a month. The slimes dams will take about eight years to treat at the increased rate, the company said.

Meanwhile, in the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa group, speculators who have punted on major development at South African Land and Exploration (and seen the share price drop spectacularly) will be disappointed with the annual statement from Mr Nicky Oppenheimer, the chairman.

Elandsrand is now expected to cost R200m compared with R127m in 1975 at then current prices. However, since the project is expected to be in production by the middle of next year compared with the original forecast of 1981, there will be little overall effect of the increase in capital expenditure.

A further Elandsrand rights issue is likely to be made towards the middle of the year, the directors state in the annual report, while "focus of bridging finance" to cover the total cash requirements of the mine are being considered as well.

Vaal Reefs is planning to produce 64,800 kilograms of gold this year, an increase of 64 kilograms on last year, by slightly increasing the milling rate to 7.2m tons and the grade to 9 grams a ton.

Equity turnover on March 20 was £55.95m (14,076 bargains). Active shares which finished a penny better at 56p. A strong second half had Tomatin 3p up at 102p, but Weir Group dipped a penny to 122p.

Figures gave a lift to Watnoughs, up 3p to 79p, and Cope Adams which finished a penny better at 56p. A strong second half had Tomatin 3p up at 102p, but Weir Group dipped a penny to 122p.

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## Bemrose setback after lower demand hits gravure print

By Michael Prest

Bemrose Corporation, the Derby-based printing, packaging and publishing group, turned in pre-tax profits for 1977 £404,000 down at £1.78m. But four of the group's five divisions have done better in the first two months of the current year, and Mr Gordon Brunton, chief executive of the Thomson Organization, is to become chairman of Bemrose.

The main loss was in the gravure print transfer division, where the deficit was £460,000 before interest charges. The company points out that there

was a world-wide downturn in demand for printed polyester fabric last year. The strengthening of sterling also contributed to the loss.

Increased profits were recorded, however, by the publishing, flexible packaging, folding cartons, calendars and diaries, and security and confidential printing divisions. The company says these areas are currently running ahead of last year's performance.

Turnover was a record £39.9m, up 21 per cent. Trading profit before deducting interest charges was £2.16m. But funds

attributable to shareholders fell 33 per cent to £1.08m.

Earnings per ordinary share are 7.77p compared with 10.8p the previous year, with a final dividend of 1.91p. The extraordinary items include £82,000 written off from goodwill, and another £32,000 for closure and relocation costs mainly from moving specialist typesetting from Preston to Derby.

Funds invested in 1977 amounted to £2.92m, a record. Borrowings, chiefly medium-term loans, are 38 per cent of shareholders funds.

## Briefly

## Upturn in Aquis securities

The extent of the revival in the investment property market is shown by the £3m upturn in the value of Aquis Securities' Atlas House, Cheapside, at the end of 1977. This has not been incorporated in the accounts for the year but it represents a net asset value of 29.09p per share. Unfortunately, the market has some way to go before the property regains its purchase price.

The board, headed by Mr Harold Quinman, believes that the "outlook for commercial development remains somewhat obscure". Despite enormous financial facilities now available, the letting market must still be viewed with considerable caution since the price of prime sites has advanced "by a frightening extent" in recent months.

The group also states that it is quite willing to ignore the depreciation standard on investment properties and accepts that the accounts may thus be qualified. The absence of amortisation of short leaseholds draws a qualification from the auditors in the 1977 accounts but these sites were revalued at the financial year end.

**COMPAIR**  
Acquisition for £7.5m of Fluid Power division of Wans Regulator of Lawrence Massachusetts completed March 17. Net tangible assets of division around £4.3m and in year to June 30 next it should make profits of £1.5m.

**WINN INDUSTRIES**  
Sale of Gush Kirby Engineering to Legibus Seventy-Seven for £136,649 in cash. 1977 profit pre-tax £9,694.

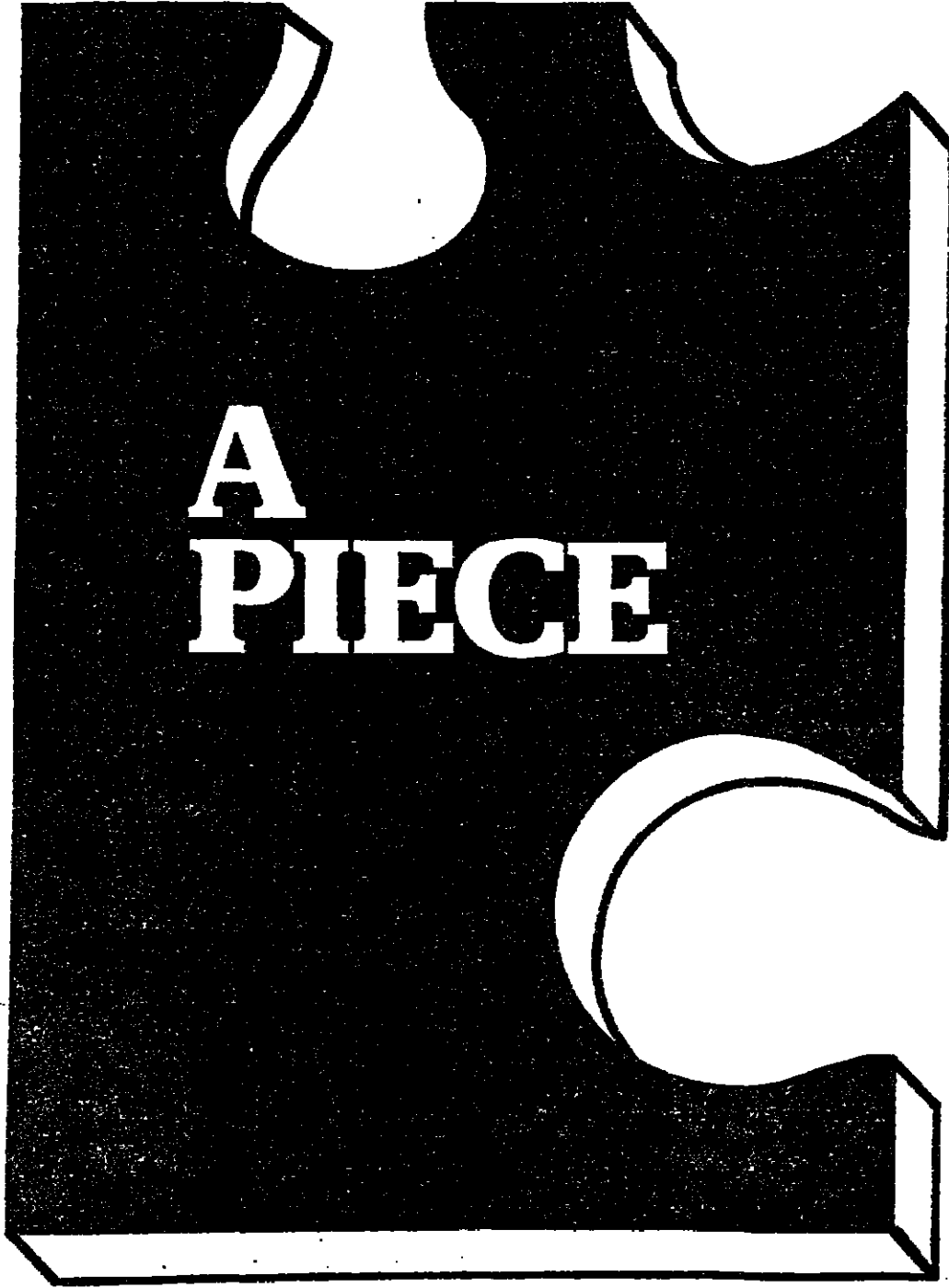
**KLEENEZE HLDGS**  
Co has agreed with Frederick Corson to buy cap of 39,000 £1 ord for £25,000.

**MERGER CLEARED**  
Mr Roy Hattersley not referring following mergers to Monopolies Commission: Cavenham Alliance Property Holdings, Even SA, Argyle Securities, Trafalgar House Young, Austen and Young, Cadbury Schweppes (USA) Peter Paul Inc.

**KELLOCK HOLDINGS**  
Turnover for 1977, £7m (£1,627m for 16 months). Pre-tax profit £62,000 (£720). Provided nothing unforeseen occurs, board expects modest dividend to be declared for 1978.

**BELGRAVE ASSETS**  
Board continues to examine ways in which it would be possible for dealings in Co's securities to be recommended, and to this end advisers are in progress with both their parent Co, Kellock Hldgs and their professional advisers. Shareholders will be informed as soon as any progress is made.

**MEGGITT HOLDINGS**  
Chairman told annual meeting that every division operating profitably and first quarter figures show big lift in earnings. Orders high.



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## Cope Allman now finding leisure side increasingly dominant

By Ray Maughan

Following the steep drop in packaging performance, leisure interests quickly became the brightest, and largest, star in the Cope Allman International firmament over the six months to end-December last.

Helped by perhaps £350,000 of aggregate loss elimination in the Australian and bicycle interests, the contribution from the gaming machine division climbed by 47 per cent to £1.82m. The increase in permitted payouts from "one-armed bandits" to £1 in tokens last month has lifted demand sharply and February orders were about 150 per cent up on the comparable period of 1977.

But Cope is 11 per cent down to £3.74m at the pre-tax level and the packaging division is chiefly to blame. Price controls

and tough competition have clobbered margins from 5.36 to 2.25 per cent and the divisional contribution to profits was slightly more than halved at £330,000.

Organizational changes have already made an impact on the fashion division where profits expanded by 22 per cent to £756,000. Engineering slipped from £1.33m to £1.15m and the Modern Composites glass reinforced plastic pipes subsidiary has been sold at asset value since the investment required to offer a full product range outstripped the timing and scale of likely benefits.

Cope will be spending about £5m this year as the first leg of the £30m three-year investment programme and gearing, currently about 35 per cent should remain comfortably

within the target limits of 40 per cent. At the same time, the debt portfolio is being rescheduled to favour long term debt at the expense of mid-term loans.

Long-term loans will probably stand at around £10m against £4.14m at the next balance sheet date and the rate charged, which in some cases is about 3 per cent over LIBOR, will be significantly reduced. Short term debt, £8.8m last July, will probably remain as a constant proportion of the whole.

The shares climbed 1p yesterday to 56p and, while packaging still looks flat, the impetus given to gaming by the recent Government decision will make a notable impression on the dominant leisure interests over the final four months of the year.

## Second-half upsurge puts Tomatin 70 pc ahead

By Our Financial Staff

A bumper second half helped Tomatin Distillers to end 1977 with a record pre-tax profit of £731,000. This is a rise of 70 per cent on last year and was achieved on turnover 33 per cent up at £10m. Margins went ahead from 5.7 per cent to 7.3 per cent.

Earnings a share are up from 5.48p to 8.07p, while the gross dividend is 4.57p against 4.12p. Mr Richard Callingham, chairman of this Inverness-shire malt whisky group is pleased with the results and notes that production of whisky was increased by 300,000 gallons to 2.3m gallons.

At half time the group managed a 45 per cent increase in profits to £363,000 and the board expected a further substantial rise in the second half. This was based on new orders already received, and the half year duty brought in a 104 per cent leap in profits to £368,000. Turnover for the second half went up nearly 37 per cent to £5m.

Criticizing the Government's stance towards the Scotch whisky industry, Mr Callingham says that if the projected move towards indirect taxation in the near future means still higher duty on Scotch whisky, it will be self defeating in terms of the resulting revenue. He says that this is already the case as three duty increases in 21 months have resulted in a drop in Treasury income by £28m.

## Scrip and peak year at W & E Turner

Record results for 1977 and a one-for-two scrip issue are announced by W & E Turner, a multiple retailer of footwear, hosiery and handbags. On the back of a 22 per cent rise in turnover to £10.01m, pre-tax profits went up 46 per cent to £354,000. This comes close to the group's long-term aim of achieving a 10 per cent return on turnover.

At the net level, profits rose 57 per cent to £446,000, pointing to a second-half rise of 66 per cent to £376,000. Earnings a share are up from 4.1p to 6.4p and the dividend is 1.85p gross. The board says that the company's level of trading has, so far, been buoyant. The board believes that the group will enable it to take advantage of any increase in consumer demand.

**PROVIDENT FINANCIAL**  
Chairman says in annual statement that so far this year group is performing well.

## Substantial volume growth in most sectors spurs Garton

By Bryan Appleyard

Fasteners manufacturer Garton Engineering increased its pre-tax profits by 28 per cent from £877,000 to £1.1m in 1977. Turnover rose by 23 per cent from just over £9m to £11.2m.

Though exports doubled they still represent below 5 per cent of sales, so Garton achieved its growth largely in the United Kingdom. In bolts this was via price increases as there was a degree of improvement in the corresponding period of last year, although our sales figures show us to be marginally ahead.

Garton believes it has managed to achieve this by "running between the legs" of the

giants in this field like GKN and by allowing its operating companies to pursue an independent marketing line.

In addition it is spending at a reasonable level on capital goods: £520,000 last year and another £400,000 committed so far this year.

However, on current trading Mr Aubrey Garton, chairman, comments: "In the early part of the current financial year, trading has not shown the degree of improvement achieved in the corresponding period of last year, although our sales figures show us to be marginally ahead."

However, Mr Garton says the company's wide spread of cus-

tomers, only 20 per cent of sales go direct to the motor industry for example, provides some insurance against industrial downturn.

So profits growth this year is not expected to be at the same level, though it is expected to be "satisfactory".

In balance sheet terms the bank overdraft is down slightly at £800,000 and gearing is likely to be further improved by conversions of the £657,000 loan stock.

The final dividend is 4.545p gross making a total for the year of 8.636p, a payout that is 3.09 times covered. Stated earnings a share are up from 12.3p to 16.1p.

## Hoechst warning on lower dividend

From Peter Norman

Bonn, March 21

Hoechst AG, one of the "big three" West German chemical groups, today warned its shareholders that it will have to reduce its dividend for 1977 from the 16 per cent level paid for 1976.

But in an interim report, the company said that shareholders resident in West Germany who benefit from a tax credit amounting to nine-sixteenths of the dividend under the terms of the new corporation tax law should obtain a higher yield than before.

Today's interim report put Hoechst's parent company pre-tax profit at DM891m last year compared with DM786m in 1976. But the company said this profit figure included exceptional items arising from the liquidation of reserves and the consolidation of companies in the Hoechst group into the parent company.

Hoechst said that 1977 had not been an easy year for the company or the German chemical industry in general. Currency changes put pressure on selling prices, exporting more difficult and increased competition from foreign suppliers on the home market.

The group's capacity in six West German averaged only 70 per cent in the final months of last year. Today's letter to shareholders said that there had been no improvement in business conditions so far this year.

The group's world-wide sales declined fractionally by 0.8 per cent to DM23,300m last year while parent company sales fell by 12 per cent to DM3,456m.

The year witnessed a cut-back in investments by the parent company with spending on fixed assets falling by DM65m to DM677m and investments in subsidiaries dropping by DM177m to DM131m.

## Bayerische Vereinsbank ponders bigger payout

Munich—Bayerische Vereinsbank

is thinking of raising its dividend for this year from 1977's DM3.9. But it is too soon to make a definite forecast, bank managing board spokesman Herr Max Hackl, said.

He told the annual press conference that the bank will be concentrating its credit business on small and medium-sized customers this year, as no substantial revival in credit demand from large companies is expected.

Herr Hackl said that he is not expecting domestic interest rates to rise this year, and they could decline further.

Herr Hackl does not expect the Bundesbank to introduce restrictive monetary policies this year for fear of stimulating money supply growth, already swollen by foreign exchange intervention.

A growth rate this year even slightly above 1977's 2.4 per cent could be considered a success. Herr Hackl said, but he declined to describe the government's 3.5 per cent gross national product growth target as unsustainable. The bank is continually looking at ways of increasing its overseas presence and South-East Asia has clear expansion potential, he added.

Last year the parent's net profit was DM67.1m against DM72.8m. The lower net profit resulted from an increase in taxes to DM90.2m from DM32.4m following last year's corporation tax law reform.

The net operating profit was DM178.3m against DM159.8m. The rise was due largely to increased earnings from securities trading and note loan business. A modest growth in savings deposits was due primarily to the transfer of funds, invested under government-sponsored savings schemes and due for repayment into savings options offering a better return.

Mr Peter Vetter is now chief executive of Dany International Projects.

Mr Kerry St Johnston has joined the board of Belfort Steamship as a non-executive director. He succeeds Mr Lemox-Conyngham.

Mr George Lidstone becomes vice-chairman of Westward TV. Mr Michael Heathcoat-Amory joins the board.

Mr C. M. Bell has been made a director of Ales Investment Trust. Mr Richard Portugal has become sales director of Mills & Allen.

Mr Alfred Pattengill, finance director of Belfort Walmley, is to become managing director from April 1. He succeeds Mr Harry Horne, who is to become executive vice-president, corporate marketing of the Belfort Group export sales organization.

The merger remains subject to several conditions, including approval by directors of both companies and holders of a majority of Taco Bell stock. Taco Bell said that its chairman and founder, who together hold 32 per cent of the outstanding stock, favour the merger.—Reuter.

The Danish shipping line DFDS A/S has announced further substantial increases in both turnover and trading profits for 1977, continuing the trend established in 1975. Turnover rose from Dkr830.7m (approximately £83m) to Dkr932m (£93m), while the trading profit, after depreciation went up from Dkr68.8m in 1976 to Dkr120.1m (about £12m).

The trading profit for the whole DFDS group has more than doubled from Dkr36.4m to Dkr212m. The board is recommending a 50 per cent increase in dividend to 12 per cent and his compares with 6 per cent in 1975.

DFDS A/S says: "The results, achieved by a strongly committed effort on the part of the company's employees, gives grounds for satisfaction. DFDS does, however, emphasize the

## International

need for continued growth to enable the very heavy investment in new ships to continue. The annual meeting will be in Copenhagen on April 6.

DFDS A/S is a public company which has had links with the United Kingdom since its founding in 1866. It is the principal surface carrier—freight and passenger—between the United Kingdom and Denmark, apart from its world-wide operations. In May its new flagship, the 14,000 ton "Dany" will sail.

The group expects this year's production of petroleum liquids to surpass the gains of last year. A rise in natural gas production will be the first increase in eight years.

Last year, Phillips had a petroleum products sales volume of 532,000 net barrels a day and produced 1,343,000 net thousands of cubic feet of natural gas daily. Worldwide crude oil production rose 5 per cent, and natural gas liquids output rose 6 per cent.

Expected production gains in 1978 are based on the start-up of additional fields in the Ekofisk area of the Norwegian North Sea and on a full year's production of natural gas from Ekofisk area fields. Ekofisk gas production began in the fall of 1977.

In addition, Phillips said, oil output will benefit from a full year's production from Indonesian fields opened last year.

The group noted it completed or had under way at year-end six major expansions in its United States chemical operations. Phillips expects production to begin in the 1980s from its uranium mining operation in northwestern New Mexico, where reserves are estimated at 25 million pounds.—Reuter.

Phillips optimism  
Bardlewell, Oklahoma.—Phillips Petroleum says in its annual report for 1977 that earnings "should be higher than the \$516.9m or \$3.37 a share earned in 1977."

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Ebes rights issue  
Antwerp. The new shares offered under Societes Reunies d'Electricite du Bassin de l'Escaut (EBES) one-for-five rights issue are priced at £1.825 each, managing director Mr Philippe Bols told shareholders. The 2.45 million new shares which go on offer from April 6 to 20 will raise the capital to Fr19.90 billion from Fr16.55 billion and the money will be used for part-financing over the next three years of Ebes investments in nuclear energy.—Reuter.

## Morrison gathers strength

However much the national food retailing chains' price war has focussed attention on the decline in high street margins, the Yorkshire group have been slugging it out among each other for years and are thus well inured to intensive competition.

So much so that Bradford-based William Morrison Supermarkets was able to widen margins deliberately in the year to January 28 last and boost pre-tax profits by 75 per cent to £3m. Sales advanced 29.81 per cent to £85.57m and the shares responded with a 27p jump to 213p. A two-for-one capitalization issued is also proposed.

Margins in the earlier period had been depressed artificially as Morrison sought to smother the trading entry of its new selling space—up 35 per cent that year. Having decided that these new stores were ready to stand on their own feet, the board expanded the return on sales last year from 2.9 to 3.5 per cent.

Life-style, or non-food operations were started 18 months ago and are set to realise their full potential in the current year. While food sales volume since January has been flat, non-food turnover is ahead by 5 to 6 per cent and tobacco and liquor operations are achieving extremely strong growth.

The £1.1m Whelans Discount Stores acquisition earlier this month will make up the bulk of this year's physical expansion while the Harrogate store will be open in mid-1979. Two other projects will also be announced shortly.

## Armstrong Equipment in 51 pc advance

By Tony May

Over the first six months of Armstrong Equipment's year, there has been a decline in real turnover on original equipment supplies to the motor industry, because of the huge increase in industrial disputes throughout the automotive assembly industry and its suppliers. This situation has not improved over the first two months of the second half. However, Mr Harry Hooper, Armstrong's chairman, notes that the group's growth has been maintained despite troubles in the industry.

External sales for the six months to January 1 went up 33.9 per cent to £39.4m, while pre-tax profits jumped 51 per cent to £4m—only £1.8m lower than the total brought in for the whole of last year. The overall results are considered "excellent" by the board, seeing them against the back-

ground of an "extremely sluggish economy and in industry which has shown steady deterioration". The market apparently agreed and added 2½p to the shares for a price of 64p.

The group has increased its manufactured supplies to the parts replacement markets "substantially" while exports should also meet their growth targets by the end of the year.

Within the specialized fasteners division, gains in turnover and profits have been enhanced by the improving profitability of the newly acquired companies, Crane's Screw (Holdings) and Ormond Engineering.

Overseas, there has been good growth in turnover and profits at the Spanish company, this has fully justified the investment made there two years ago. Other overseas companies have also done well.

## French Kier inquiry

Construction group French Kier Holdings revealed yesterday that orders under Section 441 of the Companies Act were served upon its French (Construction) and W & C French (Products) subsidiaries.

Complying with the orders, the group has thus produced all the subsidiaries' books and papers for inspection. The holding company issued a statement yesterday saying that it had "been aware since last October that inquiries were being conducted into the affairs of our wholly-owned subsidiary, W & C French (Construction)."

The inquiries appear to be directed towards the interpretation and implementation of

variation of price clauses within the contracts for the construction of the M23 and M25 motorways. These contracts were awarded to that company in 1973-74 prior to the merger which resulted in the formation of the French Kier Group.

"Without in any way acknowledging the veracity and substance of the reported allegations" (which have never formally been advised to the companies either by the police or the Department of the Environment), full provision was none the less made when forecasting the group's trading results for 1977 last November.

## Standard Chartered Insurance Brokers (Nigeria) & Co

Standard Chartered Insurance Brokers Limited, a joint venture company owned equally by the Standard Chartered Bank Limited and Bland Payne, international insurance and reinsurance brokers, announce that they have acquired a 40% interest in FIM Consultants Limited, a company established in Lagos, Nigeria, which is owned by Mr F O Ogunlana. FIM Consultants Limited has formed a wholly owned subsidiary, Standard Chartered Insurance Brokers (Nigeria) & Co., which will act as the insurance broking arm of the new group.

This company will be the fourth joint venture established by the Standard Chartered Bank Limited and Bland Payne who already have companies operating in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.



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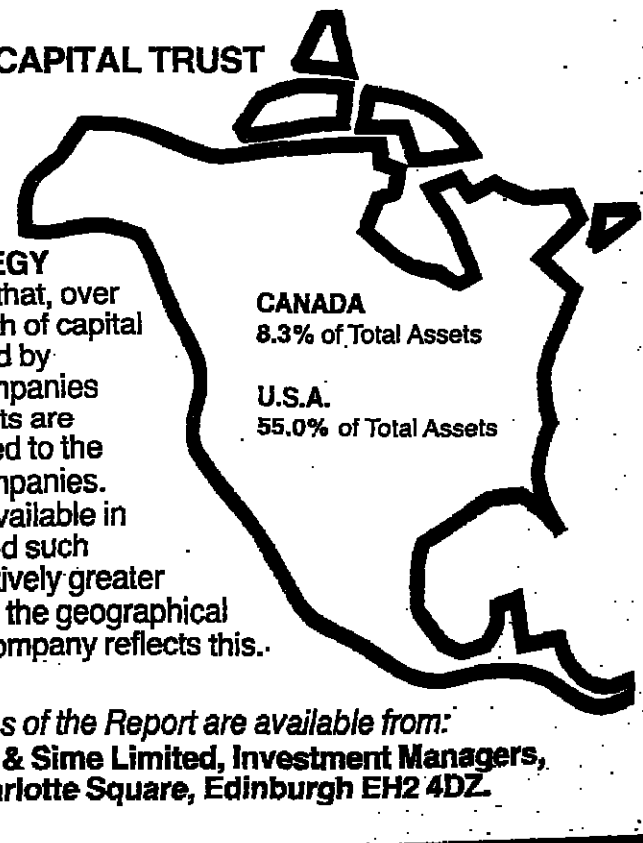
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	31st Dec 1977	31st Dec 1976
Total Assets	£33.3m	£31.1m
Net Assets	£24.4m	£22.1m
Equivalent per share to	122p	110p
Earned per ordinary share	1.58p	1.18p
Proposed Annual Dividend	1.10p	0.90p



## US side of J. E. Sanger leads to big loss

There is no interim dividend from J. E. Sanger, the Croydon-based motor trader. The fall from a profit of £160,000 to a loss of £332,000 in nine months to December on turnover up from £25.25m to £27.4m. The share price has fallen 9p to 36p.

The main problem area, the group in its statement, is still the American operations. The directors decided to close down group's operations in California and merge two operations, Jersey into one office.

Board's confidence in the viability of the American operations has been shaken in the last two years, the board still judge it right to represent them. The current accounting period runs to end of March, and a "much improved" performance is forecast for the United States interests for the balance of year.

Overall, there had been improvement in the group's trading operations in the last two months and directors expected to be able to report a "better performance" with the figures.

Dividend payments for the year will be reviewed "in final figures are available."

## Thames Television up 7 pc at half-time

Better advertising revenue and profits for Thames Television are the main factors for a 7 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £5.7m for the six months to January 29 at Rediffusion Television, a subsidiary of British Electric Traction. The group's profit rose from £2.8m to £2.9m. Attributable profit came out at £1.63m per share with £1.74m.

## Western Motor aims for bumper year

Management trading figures to date for the current year show a satisfactory start. Western Motor Holdings, a reasonable economic and steady production of factories, there is no reason to believe that the group should not be "current" record achieved in past.

In accordance with proposals of the accounts standards committee regarding deferred taxation (ED19), vision has been made for tax liabilities as are likely to be in excess of £2.8m.

Meanwhile turnover has increased from £15.5m to £19.6m, while pre-tax profits are up from £242,000 to £592,000.

## Talbot Group off to a good start

The past three months seen many changes at Talbot with the arrival of new influential shareholders. The result of these changes has been pointed, three of which I sent the shareholders. As was forecast in the document for James W. there has been a substantial improvement in the performance of the company in half year to January 31.

Turnover has increased per cent to £4,991m and pre-tax profits have risen to £80,000 to £245,124.

All the main trading companies are trading profitably, Osmond Aerosols showing particular strength. Exports growing and are expected develop further following trading opportunities for new board members.

The recently-acquired resources will considerably tend Talbot's ability to both through the present and by acquisition.

The board looks forward to providing there is no downward trend in the world trade, they expect that the profit year will be in excess of those of 1977.

## UNEMPLOYMENT

The following are the monthly unemployment figures for Great Britain:

	Total Seasonally adjusted	Unemployed	%
1977			
Feb	1,365	1,277	9.3
March	1,328	1,275	9.6
April	1,338	1,280	9.6
May	1,286	1,270	9.9
June	1,390	1,309	9.4
July	1,553	1,342	8.6
Aug	1,567	1,354	8.6
Sept	1,542	1,378	8.9
Oct	1,457	1,375	9.4
Nov	1,438	1,373	9.5
Dec	1,420	1,365	9.6
1978			
Jan	1,485	1,361	9.2
Feb	1,448	1,350	9.3
March	1,399	1,340	9.6

\* Excluding school leavers

## REGIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT

The following are the monthly unemployment figures, seasonally adjusted excluding school leavers:

	Number	Change on month
S. East	513,800	-3,100
E. Anglia	35,100	-1,200
S. West	120,700	-1,200
W. Midlands	78,600	-800
Yorkshire	116,300	-800
W. West	197,300	-2,800
North	174,100	-1,100
Scotland	177,000	-300
G. Britain	1,340,900	-11,900
UK	1,400,000	-9,000







## Busier day

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Gross Div. Yld		INSTR		Gross Div. Yld	
Price Ch'ge	Factor % P/E	High	Low	Price Ch'ge	Factor % P/E

20 214 Waterhanging 100 11 21 20 100 100

















Stepping Stones - Non-Secretarial - Secretarial & General - Tempting Times -

### Temping Times

## CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE TEMPORARY KIND

We need high calibre temporary staff to join our expanding team. It can often take a long time to sort out a suitable highly paid permanent job so while you are waiting we can use your services.

**SECRETARIES £2.15 PER HOUR**  
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We can offer work in the West End or the City and at present we are turning jobs away. Please phone:

West End: Laurence Cole, 433 6757  
City: Jill Ballard, 588 3124  
N-TYPE STAFF BUREAU

### ARE YOU FREE?

Temping with us means you need not wait for a permanent job. We have a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world.

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21 BROOKFIELD AVE.,  
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BROMFORD, LONDON, E.C.1  
Tel: 01-493 5907

### TEMPORARY IS A MISLEADING WORD...

There is no shortage of work for temporary staff. We have a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world.

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If you have a warm, friendly personality, fast, accurate typing skills, and a good telephone manner, we can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world.

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## SECRETARY

Required to work with the general secretary of the British volunteer programme in its new office in Covent Garden. Good shorthand and typing skills needed with experience of working on own initiative. Ideally, the person appointed will have knowledge of or commitment to development overseas and/or voluntary activity.

Thirty-five hours a week. Salary £2,250 to £2,500 p.a. + L.V. depending on experience and qualifications.

Further details from General Secretary, BVP, 24 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3HU. Telephone 01-436 4866.

Closing date April 7, 1978.

### AMERICAN INVESTMENT BANK in City

requires Secretary. Applicants should have good shorthand and typing skills, and a good telephone manner. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world. We can offer you a wide range of temporary jobs in all areas of the business world.

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### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

We are a U.S. Brokerage firm requiring an individual to work approximately 30 per cent on secretarial duties and 70 per cent on administrative work for which you would need to be good at figures. Job requires hard work and flexibility and is interesting.

Salary £4,000 negotiable (including bonus) with 4 weeks holiday

**APPLICANTS PLEASE CONTACT**  
Miss Oak. Fox-Pitt, Kelton Inc.  
2-12 WILSON ST., E.C.2  
TELEPHONE 377 8419

### Personal Assistant/Secretary

12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

**Are You:**  
- EXPERIENCED, CONFIDENTIAL, RESPONSIBLE  
- PERSONABLE, METHODOICAL, AND WELL ORGANISED.

**Do You:**  
- Have excellent shorthand typing skills, a pleasant personality and a sense of humour. You will be working in a busy office, enjoy meeting people, drive.

**Do You Require:** interesting and challenging position, to work on your own initiative, low salary, excellent holiday conditions in the City.

A change of employment.

Then apply to writing with c.v. in confidence, to:-  
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### Margery Hurst Centre

British leading Winter Sports Operator requires a high-grade Secretary to work in the Director of Finance and the Marketing Manager's offices. The successful candidate should have previous experience in a similar position, be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

Apply to writing with c.v. to:-  
Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### SECRETARY

£4,250 neg. BANKING W.I.

The Branch Manager of an overseas bank with a reputation for excellence in the City, requires a Secretary to work in the Director of Finance and the Marketing Manager's offices. The successful candidate should have previous experience in a similar position, be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

Apply to writing with c.v. to:-  
Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### PEOPLE AND PARIS

£4,000

As Secretary P.A. to a Director of an international company, you will be involved in the full range of personnel and training duties. You will be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

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Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### INTERIOR DESIGN

£4,500

Young Designers of small, modern, and contemporary interiors are looking for a Secretary to work in the Director of Finance and the Marketing Manager's offices. The successful candidate should have previous experience in a similar position, be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

Apply to writing with c.v. to:-  
Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### INTERESTED IN HOUSING?

Administrative Assistant required mid-April for the Council of Co-Ownership Housing Societies Ltd. The job involves answering queries on housing matters and editing news letter. No shorthand, but excellent typing skills essential. Small friendly office in Covent Garden.

Salary £3,800 negotiable. Ring Mrs. Coke, 836 6916.

### OXFORD CIRCUS

Firm of Architects at Oxford Circus are looking for a Secretary to work in the Director of Finance and the Marketing Manager's offices. The successful candidate should have previous experience in a similar position, be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

Apply to writing with c.v. to:-  
Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### SECRETARY

£3,500-£4,000

Age 21-35, for busy, friendly firm of Surveyors near Piccadilly Circus. Accurate shorthand and typing, ability to work on own initiative essential, 4 weeks holiday.

Please call Pat Davis on 01-437 0474

### BRUSSELS Medical Secretary

required for medical research division of pharmaceutical company. Short-term contract, 3 months, with possibility of extension. Salary £4,000 p.a. + bonus. Excellent holiday conditions. Please apply to:-  
MS JESSON, CLINICAL RESEARCH DEPARTMENT, BRISTOL MYERS COMPANY INTERNATIONAL DIVISION, CHAUSSEE DE LA VULPE, 188-187, B-1170 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM.  
Preliminary interviews will be held in London.

### SECRETARY

Active Tea Department requires Secretary to run everything running properly. Usual Secretarial work involved but also the successful applicant will enjoy a challenging stimulating atmosphere.

Please call or write to:  
Edith Inns 01-405 3151  
LONDON EXPORT CORPORATION LTD.  
27 Greville Street, London, E.C.1

### AMMAN JORDAN Experienced Secretary

required for Construction Company, based in Jordan. Must fully qualified and thoroughly experienced in all aspects of secretarial work, typing, and general duties. Ability to work in a team, and to take initiative. Salary £4,000 p.a. + bonus. Excellent holiday conditions. Please apply to:-  
THE DYE HOUSE, THURSLEY, SURREY.

### PUBLICITY SECRETARIES

PROMOTION has left the Publicity Department of an international aviation and communications company without any staff. We need two flexible, experienced, and enthusiastic Secretaries to take over the duties of the departed staff. The successful candidates will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and will be required to work in a team, and to take initiative. Salary £4,000 p.a. + bonus. Excellent holiday conditions. Please apply to:-  
THE DYE HOUSE, THURSLEY, SURREY.

### MUSCAT NO SHORTHAND

A fabulous opportunity for a career-minded girl. If you enjoy hard work and a challenge, you could be managing a household and an office. You will be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

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Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### DO YOU WANT TO SELL A TOP NAME IN FASHION

Do you love the past, the present, and the future? If you are a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry, you could be managing a household and an office. You will be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

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### READY FOR A CHALLENGE?

Senior Secretary required for West End law firm specializing in the music industry. The job involves answering queries on housing matters and editing news letter. No shorthand, but excellent typing skills essential. Small friendly office in Covent Garden.

Salary £3,800 negotiable. Ring Mrs. Coke, 836 6916.

### PERSONNEL MORTLAKE

A Personnel Manager in Mortlake is looking for a Secretary to work in the Director of Finance and the Marketing Manager's offices. The successful candidate should have previous experience in a similar position, be a good shorthand typist, and have a good knowledge of the ski industry.

Apply to writing with c.v. to:-  
Miss A. Hurst, 12 The Principal Partner in the British office of a firm of Chartered Quantity Surveyors, concerned with U.K. and Overseas Business.

### WEST BYFLEET

Executive Secretary with first class skills for international company of Petroleum Consultants. Top salary for self starter, prepared to dedicate herself to the job, and to take initiative. Salary £4,000 p.a. + bonus. Excellent holiday conditions. Please apply to:-  
THE DYE HOUSE, THURSLEY, SURREY.







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